



Anchorage Amateur Radio Club, Inc. – KL7AA
Radio Science and Operations Center – KL7G
PO Box 190192 6721 Raspberry Road
Anchorage, Alaska 99519

Tel: (907) 345-0719 website: <https://kl7aa.org>
Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/kl7aa/>
X: <https://twitter.com/AnchorageARC> @AnchorageARC



NEWSLETTER

December 31, 2023



AARC – 76 Years of Service

Our Mission

The mission of the Anchorage Amateur Radio Club is to vigorously promote, support, and lead amateur radio activities in a manner that honors and exemplifies the [radio amateur's code](#), builds esprit de corps within our membership, and serves our community's needs.

Our Vision

An inclusive community of engaged, trained, and prepared emergency communication volunteers

RSOC Motto

Learn, Teach, Serve

AARC Anti-discrimination Policy

Our Club does not and shall not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion (creed), gender, gender expression, age, national origin (ancestry), disability, marital status, sexual orientation, or military status, in any of its activities or operations.

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How to Keep Tabs on the AARC / RSOC

Board Meetings

Held on the 3rd Tuesday of every month at 7 pm. Meetings are held at the RSOC but are also hybrid with a Zoom component for those unable to attend in-person. Members are welcome to attend Board meetings as visitors, and if you have an item to discuss, visitors are typically heard first. You can find our calendar listed on our main webpage at kl7aa.org, but you can go directly to our calendar at <https://kl7aa.org/events/>.

General Membership Meetings

Held on the 1st Thursday of every month at 7 pm. Meetings are held at the RSOC but are also hybrid with a Zoom component for those unable to attend in-person. Go to the club's website to get the Zoom link. You can find our calendar listed on our main webpage at kl7aa.org, but you can go directly to our calendar at <https://kl7aa.org/events/>.

Periodic Newsletters

If you are a club member, you should receive notice of the posting of our periodic newsletter via e-mail when it is published. If you are a member and you are NOT receiving these notices of the newsletter posting via e-mail, please let us know at editor@kl7aa.org. Of course, ANYONE can find our current and archived newsletters on our website at <https://kl7aa.org/newsletters/>

Webpage

Lots of information is located on our webpage. The home page is located at <https://kl7aa.org/>

Blog Posts

We put out blog posts on our website. These can be found on our home page on the website at <https://kl7aa.org/>, or directly at <https://kl7aa.org/blog/>. Typically, our blog posts also get inserted in our newsletter and are also "pushed" out to our Facebook and X pages. More on Facebook and X below.

Facebook

Our Facebook page is located at <https://www.facebook.com/kl7aa/>. As mentioned above, most activity is related to blog posts we put out, but there is some other action if you are into that sort of thing! We have 708 followers (+150 from last report).

X (Formerly Twitter)

Yes, we have an X account, @AnchorageARC. Our blog posts show up there for sure. Right now we have 63 followers (+ 3 from last report).

KL7AA Reflector

What does the reflector do? Well, if you send an e-mail to it from your registered e-mail address, that message will be distributed to the 153 current subscribers on the list (+ 3 from last report)! It's a great way to get info out to the group, and a great way to keep up with some of the current happenings. Further, as a registered member of the list, you can get a list of the other registered members (well, at least those who don't opt to conceal their identity in the options), can set the system to give you daily messages, and set a number of other options.

To join the reflector go to <http://www.qth.net/mailman/listinfo/kl7aa>

There, you can subscribe and get started. It's pretty simple and straight forward, but if you need help, give us a shout at info@kl7aa.org.

Have You Seen the AARC / RSOC Video?

Check out our cool 5-minute video about the AARC and the Radio Science and Operations Center. Many thanks to Mark Sabel, WD6BMJ and others who worked so hard to make this a reality! [Click here to access the video](#)

Alternatively, visit the club website at: <https://kl7aa.org/>
Then hover on "About"
Then select "RSOC Story Video"

Donations – How To Support Us

The AARC / RSOC can't operate and maintain the resources we own without adequate funding. Expenses include rent for repeater sites, web and telephone services, Radio Science and Operations Center facility rent, insurance, vehicle and generator fuel, vehicle registration, etc.

We can accept tax-deductible donations as we are a 501(c)(3) charitable organization. We are happy to accept direct donations or contributions but are always exploring other ways to generate the needed income to fund our important activities.

Here are some ways you can support us:

- Club Merchandise: Check out our Cafépress store for a wide variety of club logo'd stuff! We've have many items with AARC, RSOC, and AARC VEC logos. Here's the link:
<https://www.cafepress.com/aarcrsoc>



- [Pick.Click.Give.](#)
- Donate cash here: <https://kl7aa.org/donations/cash/>
- Send us a check written to "AARC" mailed to:
AARC
PO Box 190192
Anchorage, AK 99519
- Donate a vehicle (even a non-running junker), or a 4-wheeler, or a snowmachine, or a boat, or an RV, etc., etc. How? Check this page out: <https://kl7aa.org/donations/aarc-rsoc-vehicle-donation-program/>
- Link your Fred Meyer Rewards Card to the Anchorage Amateur Radio Club under the Fred Meyer Community Rewards Program. How? Check this page out:
<https://kl7aa.org/donations/fred-meyer-community-rewards/>
- Purchase a beautiful club Challenge Coin here (SORRY, COINS ARE CURRENTLY SOLD OUT! A 2024 coin will be coming soon): <https://kl7aa.org/product/aarc-challenge-coin/>
- If you sell on eBay, designate a portion, or all of the sale price to the club under the eBay for Charity program. Learn how here:
<https://kl7aa.org/support-your-club-with-ebay-for-charity/>



Our Board of Directors

Position	Name	Call	Term Ends	Contact
President	Richard Tweet	KL2AZ	12/31/2024	President (at) kl7aa.org
Vice President	TJ Sheffield	KL7TS	12/31/2025	Vicepresident (at) kl7aa.org
Secretary	Vacant	Vacant	12/31/2024	Secretary (at) kl7aa.org
Treasurer	Kent Petty	KL5T	12/31/2025	Treasurer (at) kl7aa.org
Director	John Lime	KL4OF	12/31/2024	Kl4of (at) kl7aa.org
Director	Keith Clark	KL7MM	12/31/2024	Trustee (at) kl7aa.org
Director	Matt Ostrander	KL4QH	12/31/2025	Kl4qh (at) kl7aa.org
Director	Rebecca Weicht	Associate	12/31/2025	Rebecca.weicht (at) kl7aa.org
Director	Dave Webb	N9AIG	12/31/2027	n9aig (at) kl7aa.org
Director	Louis Tozzi (Wigi)	KL0R	12/31/2027	Wigi.tozzi (at) kl7aa.org

From the Prez

Greetings,

I hope everyone had a great Christmas and will have a happy New Year!

We are approaching another Public Service year with several events already taking shape. We will be looking for volunteers for the following 2024 events:

2024 Walk and Roll for HOPE – Date TBD Contact: Need an event captain
Walk MS – Saturday May 4th Contact: Need an event captain
ARRL Field Day – Saturday June 22nd Contact: Need an event captain
Dog Jog 2024 – Date TBD Contact: T.J. Sheffield KL7TS
Gold Nugget Triathlon – May 19th Contact: Riley Petty KL4RP
Alaska Run for Women – June 8th Contact: Jim McDonald KL4XQ
Anchorage Runfest – August 18th Contact: Keith Clark KL7MM

Public Service events remain a great way to promote amateur radio. These events are a great way to practice and improve radio skills while enjoying the great Alaskan outdoors. Volunteers can be on foot, on bicycles, or even better, e-bikes! Beginning operators can be paired with an experienced operator to learn and become more comfortable with an event checkpoint and operator responsibilities.

The Anchorage Amateur Radio Club this year returned to in-person membership meetings on the first Thursday of each month (except July) at 7pm. These meetings will continue to be available online via Zoom (see www.KL7AA.org/events for the calendar link). Suggestions and/or volunteers for a meeting presentation are welcome.

The AARC continues to operate without a solid income stream since the closing of a bingo facility whose operator utilized our gaming permit for a portion of the operation several years ago. We are continuously seeking grants to support the club's operation and equipment and greatly appreciate donations from members to assist. Please consider the AARC Benevolent Fund as a donation avenue.

The club continues to see a permanent Newsletter Editor as well as a Board position, Secretary. The work associated with these positions is currently being assumed by club Officers and someone to fill these positions and assume the responsibilities would be greatly appreciated.

Remember, this is your club, and we look forward to hearing from you on ways to continue and improve our service to members.

73 and Happy New Year,

Richard Tweet KL2AZ
AARC President

Membership

General Info

Membership page: <https://kl7aa.org/aarc-membership/>

Annual individual dues for the Anchorage Amateur Radio Club (AARC) (KL7AA) are \$20.00 for a calendar year and are due by **December 31st** for the next year. Additional household members can be added for \$10 per year. New and household member rates are pro-rated on a quarterly basis. Life memberships are also available; see the cost schedule below. Members who reside in the state of Alaska have voting rights at the General Membership meetings and elections for Officers and Directors. Contact Membership@KL7AA.org if you have questions about joining.

Student memberships are also available at NO COST for full-time students (primary, secondary, or college). Check our website or [Click here to apply for a student membership](#)

NOTE: Members are considered “**REGULAR**” members or “**ASSOCIATE**” members. **Regular** members are those who hold a current valid amateur radio license. **Associate** members are those who do NOT hold a current valid amateur radio license. **Associate** members have the same rights of membership as **Regular** members, and may also hold a Board position.

You may also join the club at any meeting or by calling us at **(907) 345-0719** and leaving a message with your contact details.

Life Membership Cost:

Under 65 Years Old:	\$250
65-69 Years Old:	\$200
70-74 Years Old:	\$150
75-79 Years Old:	\$100
80-84 Years Old:	\$50
85 Years Old or Older:	\$1

Current Membership:

Lifetime:	167
Individual Annual:	103
Additional Household Member:	6
Associate:	7
Student:	5
Total:	288

Member Info – Please Update

We have an online form for members to use if you have information to provide regarding a member's status. This might be to update your own information, or to help with information about another member (I.e. - they have become a silent key, you have a new telephone number, email address, or mailing address, or you just have info to pass on to the club about a member. Perhaps they are in ill

health or might need some other form of support from the club.) Anyone is welcome to complete this form. Here is the link: [Update Member Info](#)

2023 End of Year Membership Roster

Abbott, Allen	KB1QCE	Fuller, David	NL7QY	Marvin, Lillian	KL7YF
Andrews, Leonard	KL7CA	Fuller, Lloyd	KL7JGN	McCleary, Donald	KL5HW
Antonucci, Steven	KL3VL	Gandy, Dana	AF7UM	McCormick, Scott	KL7SLM
Antonuk, John	AL7ID	Gandy, Galina	KA7GAL	McCrorey, Gary	WQ5R
Arnold, David	KN6YRT	Gavlick, Norman	AC3KC	McDermott, Paul	KL5GS
Arnold, Paul	KN6YXK	Geiger, Richard	KL5MM	McKinnie, Robert	AL7AW
Austin, Keith	KL2JE	Gibson, Michael	KL5AX	McLaughlin, Michael	KL7USX
Bains-Jordan, John	KL7ICB	Gibson, Timothy	KL5PI	Michael, Sue	AL7BN
Baker, Michael	NL7J	Gifford, James	KL1IO	Michael, Timothy	NL7D
Baker, Robert	NL7UQ	Gillin, Richard	AL4S	Migliorino, Anthony	KC3RVI
Balzarini, William	KL7BB	Gleason, Dennis	KL7GGT	Minton, James	KL7JU
Barkauskas, Amy	KL5LW	Granger, William	KL7WG	Missal, William	W1JM
Barker, William	AL7JT	Green, Cozette	KL4RL	Moody, Catherine	KL7NR
Bartucco, Robert	W1NV	Grijalva, Leonard	KL3OG	Moore, Maximo	KL5GH
Bathony, Tibor	Associate	Gunson, Robert	KL7PC	Morrison, Steven	KL7ZJ
Beaugard, Patrick	KL7EJ	Hadley, Mark	KL7HD	Nicholas, Tyler	N5UC
Beaumont, Robert	KL5IF	Hall, J Andrew	N5ASE	Nightingale, Gregory	KK7GN
Bender, James	KL7ZV	Hammer, Clarence	KL7CH	Nolte, John	KL4OI
Bierwirth, Charles	KL7KBN	Hansen, Roger	KL7HFQ	Notte, Mathew	WL4DX
Billings, Clayton	KL5MH	Hansen, Roy	KL7GQ	Nowacki, John	W3NA
Bledsoe, Craig	KL7H	Harris, William	WL7AFN	Olson, Diane	KL1MY
Bloom, Stephen	KL7SB	Hatton, Michael	KL5BY	Olson, Kenneth	Associate
Bowlin, Frank	WL7D	Head, Beth	NL7FZ	Opalka, Kevin	KL1V
Brady, Kit	AL9D	Heimke, David	AL7LO	Orella, John	KL7LL
Brent, Jeffrey	KI5SXN	Helms, Richard	KL1NH	Ostrander, Matthieu	KL4QH
Brown, Charles	KL5C	Hice, Daniel	AD2GL	Palenske, Brian	KL4SY
Brown, Christopher	WL7CLA	Hillman, Harry	KL7REU	Papp, Michael	WB6GJE
Bruce, John	KL4O	Hilton, James	KL7IMD	Patterson, W L	WL7PP
Burney, Gregory	KL5IZ	Hilton, Susan	NL7AV	Pellessier, Richard	AL6P
Bury, John	KL7QZ	Hinson, Roy	AC2UJ	Pepok, Barbara	KL3HC
Bush, Donald	KL7JFT	Holland, David	KA3FZJ	Perucca, Douglas	KL7DUG
Cannon, Elizabeth	KL4TU	Hont, Andreas	KL5PF	Peterson, Drew	N0DAP
Cannon, Eric	KL4VA	Horvath, Ronald	W8PVZ	Petty, Larry	KL5T
Capers, Billy	AL7BB	Howell, Donald	KL7IFK	Petty, Riley	KL4RP
Carl, Rick	WO1FMN	Hunstein, William	KL7TC	Pfeifer, John	KH6RF
Carraway, Steven	KL4OX	Iditarod Trail Committee	Associate	Phelps, Richard	K7TPN
Carter, Jordan	KL5NY	Jenckes, James	AL1R	Phifer, William	AL7IG
Carty, John	WA1ACN	Jendryk, Paul	NL7PJ	Pieniadz, John	AK4MW
Chase, Arthur	KL7FS	Jennings, Jay	KL0WN	Plawman, Thomas	KL4RQ
Christensen, Robert	KL7ERV	Johnson, Ellen	KL2LN	Pratt, Dickson	KL7IWI
Clark, Harold	KL7MM	Johnson, Richard	Associate	Princiotta, Josef	KL4VB
Clough, John	NL7CN	Johnson, William	AA1AB	Pritchard, Peter	KL7IS
Cole, Edward	KL7UW	Jones, Catharine	KL4GX	Raboin, Thomas	KL0GC
Cooley, Paul	KL3SR	Jones, Dennis	AL5K	Rader, Ernie	W5NH
Crawford, Charles	Associate	Jones, Gretchen	KL4GY	Raynsford, William	AL7JK
Crosby, Nicole	N7XBY	Jones, Justin	KE8WYZ	Reich, John	KL2T
Cruz, Mario	KL5FX	Keech, Ronald	KL7YK	Reimer, Eric	KL2NW
Curman, Joyce	KL7MQ	Kelliher, Hannelore	NL7EA	Reiter, Bill	KL7ITI
Day, Richard	KL7SH	Kelly, Frances	KL2FL	Rexford, Fenton	NL7BE
Delancy, April	AL7CV	Kelly, Robert	KL7EN	Reynaud, Wesley	WL7WR
Delancy, Jean	W1JD	Kelson, Kevin	KM4GHR	Reynolds, Sherman	KL7QY
Dennis, Richard	KL7IOL	Kiester, Tom	KC7CHL	Reynolds, Terry	AL7CE
DeSousa, Allen	KL7AED	Kimmel, Corliss	AL1G	Richey, Mark	KL3MR
Douthett, Clarence	KA0YPV	Kirch, Frederick	K3IKY	Riggs, Jason	KL7AAR
Dowding, Fielder	KL7FHX	Kohl, James	KL7KK	Robinson, Samuel	W7OSL
Dowling, Richard	KL0DR	Kosaka, Takahiro	KL2KN	Ronne, Marshall	KL1R
Durando, William	KC3WJG	Kotsch, Richard	WL7CPX	Rosenberger, Andrew	AL7U
Eastman, Cornelius	KL0FK	Kozup, Peter	K80UA	Rowan, Gene	K7GWR
Edge, Ervin	AL7CN	Lane, Kenneth	KL7HH	Sabel, Mark	WD6BMJ
Eggleson, Kenneth	NL7SP	Langford, Kenneth	KL5CF	Sakowich, John	W4FBL
Emerson, Bryan	KL4A	Larsen, James	KL7FS	Sarber, Sabrina	Associate
Engeberg, Asher	Associate	Larson, Kent	KL7SD	Sauers, Kurt	KL5II
Engeberg, Ezra	Associate	Lawrence, David	KL7HAB	Sawyer, Leif	KL5BN
Engeberg, Jeremy	KL5GV	Lawson, John	NL7NC	Scherr, James	KL2JH
Epstein, David	KL7LO	Ledvina, Vincent	Associate	Schoenecker, Morgan	KG7SEQ
Erickson, Frederick	KL7FE	Leon, Alexander	AL8I	Schroder, Robert	NT1S
Eversole, Kellye	K1SOE	Leon, Brian	KL5CU	Schroeder, Steve	KL7ML
Fairchild, Paul	AL4G	Lime, John	KL4OF	Searcy, Linda	NL7FY
Falat, Michael	KSRQI	Lime, Tyler	KL4RN	Seibert, Joseph	AL1F
Fankhouser, Stephen	W0PPC	Loschiavo, Matthew	AG5YR	Sheffield, Theodore	KL7TS
Faultersack, Beverly	WL7AXI	Lynn, Edythe	KL7EL	Smith, Robin	K7HMM
Faultersack, Robert	KL7SV	Lynn, John	KL7CY	Sockolosky, Thomas	AC2JI
Fell, Eric	NL5E	Lyon, Christopher	Associate	Soltis, Deborah	NL7AC
Filley, David	WL7CDJ	MacGregor, Shari	AL7FJ	Soltis, Francis	KL7UQ
Florio, Shawn	KL2BR	Marton, John	AL7LN	Sommer, Robert	KL7FU

Soquet, Mark	KL5JC	Tremper, David	KL7ZK	Wilkinson, George	KL1JJ
Spencer, Robert	KL7YZ	Trevisan, Moira	KN6JOY	Wilson, Tylor	KL5TW
Spivey, Joel	N4ERF	Tucker, Edwin	KL7DU	Witjes, Dustin	WY9Z
Springer, Mark	WL7BCT	Turner, Howard	W5IF	Wolf, Jeffrey	N8EX
Sprunger, Frederick	KL5QJ	Tweet, Richard	KL2AZ	Wolgemuth, James	KL3RC
Stafford, Sara	KI7LIX	Twiggs, John	KL7HJZ	Woods, Susan	NL7NN
Stapleton, Rob	KL2AN	Ustick, David	KI7KPB	Worst, Ed	K9EW
Steele, Peter	K0VJD	Van Weel, Pieter	KL2CR	Wylam, George	Associate
Stevens, Daniel	KL7WM	Vaughan, Cesar	KL5FM	Yancey, Daniel	KL5OL
Stevens, David	KL7EB	Vogel, John	WA9C	Yankauskas, Walter	KL7WY
Steward, Arlene	KL7HO	Vosper, Robert	KZ1B	York, Richard	KL7RTY
Stillinger, Constance	KN2EFI	Waldron, Christopher	KK7ERQ	Yuhasey, Joshua	KC9ZWA
Strait, Dennis	NL7DN	Walter, Lawrence	KL7IWC	Zelinsky, John	AL6W
Strother, George	KL7GS	Walters, Jeremiah	WL7BUN		
Summers, Peter	KL2GY	Ward, William	KL7FJ		
Svihra, John	NL7VE	Wardman, James	AL4W		
Symmes, Samuel	KC0CYR	Webb, Dave	N9AIG		
Talbott, Joseph	KL7NK	Weed, Roger	KV4I		
Taylor, Arthur	KL7SK	Weicht, Rebecca	Associate		
Templeton, David	N4NG	Wells, Heath	WE3B		
Tessier, Lorraine	KL7IAF	Wetzel, Tyson	KL2WX		
Theuer, William	KL0QK	Wheeler, Gary	AL1E		
Thornton, John	KD5TRI	White, Wade	KO6ANM		
Tilman, Warren	KL0RA	Wiggins, Randy	W4AI		
Tozzi, Louis	KL0R	Wilcox, Stephen	KL7JIM		

Lifetime Membership Roster as of 12/31/2023

This table is a work in progress as we try to update and reconcile several databases. If you have information to help update this record, please visit the following page and submit your info! It will be greatly appreciated! [CLICK HERE TO SUBMIT INFO](#)

Number	Name	Callsign	State/Status	Info Needed
L001	Wilse Morgan	WX7P, KL7CQ, W6PVF	Silent Key	
L002	John Bierman	KL7GNP	Silent Key	
L003	Robert Hisamoto	KL7AM	Silent Key	
L004	William Reiter	KL7ITI	AK	
L005	Arthur Chase	KL7FS	WA	
L006	David Stevens	KL7EB	AK	
L007	Walter Burkevich	KL7IW	Silent Key	
L008	Herbert Brasseur	KL7JIG	Silent Key	
L009	Herbert Rosenthal	W5AN, AL7G, KL7AE	Silent Key	
L010	Edwin Tucker	KL7DU	AZ	
L011	Lloyd Fuller	KL7JGN	AK	
L012	Roy Hansen	KL7GQ	AK	
L013	Harley Steward	KL7IZZ	Silent Key	
L014	Lester Collison	KL7GRT	WA	
L015	Stephen Wilcox	KL7JIM	AK	
L016	Betty Mallay	KL7AP	Silent Key	
L017	James Moody Jr	NL7C	Silent Key	
L018	Harold Devoe	KL7MF	Silent Key	
L019	Patrick Beaugard	KL7EJ	WA	
L020	Timothy Pettis	KL7WE	Silent Key	
L021	Harold Steves	KL7HJD	Silent Key	
L022	William Ward	KL7JFJ	CO	
L023	John Arsenaunt	KL7IQP	Silent Key	
L024	Allen Bianco	KL7FKO	Silent Key	
L025	Frank Pratt Jr	KL7RX	Silent Key	

L026	Roger Weed	KV4I, KL7HOT	FL	
L027	Mark Hadley	KL7HD	AK	
L028	Lance Dunbar	AL7BK	Silent Key	
L029	Francis Drake Jr	KL7IPV	Silent Key	
L030	Fred Graham	KL7FK	Silent Key	
L031	John Twiggs IV	KL7HJZ	TX	
L032	Fred Wegmer	KL7HFM	Silent Key	
L033	Jasper Heath	KL7MD	Silent Key	
L034	David Lawrence	KL7HAB	AK	
L035	Russell Scott	KL7EM	Silent Key	
L036	Roger Hansen	KL7HFQ	AK	
L037	Walter Lawrence	KL7IWC	AK	
L038	Kenneth Lane	KL7HH	TX	
L039	Stanton Wilson	KL7KU	Silent Key	
L040	Albert Haynes	KL7HHR	Silent Key	
L041	Dell Wolfington	KL7EKB	Silent Key	
L042	Eugene Morris Jr	KL7OK	Silent Key	
L043	James Larsen	AL7FS	AK	
L044	Claude Laws	KL7IBZ	Silent Key	
L045	Kenneth Greene Sr	KK6MR	Silent Key	
L046	Gary McCrorey	WQ5R	OK	
L047	Robin Smith	K7HMN	OR	
L048	Leo Olendorff	KL7BCH	Silent Key	
L049	Kent Larson	KL7SD	KS	
L050	Sherman Reynolds	KL7QY	AK	Inactive
L051	Robert Woolsey	KL7ENP	Silent Key	
L052	Reed McKinney	KL7MJ	Silent Key	
L053	Ellen W Johnson (Edge)	KL2LN, KL7OR	OR	
L054	Peggy Don	AL7CY	Silent Key	
L055	Steve Schroeder	KL7ML	AR	

L056	George Naumann Jr	KL7DZE	Silent Key	
L057	Ervin Edge	AL7CN	CA	Need Info
L058	Arlene Steward	KL7HO	AK	
L059	Robert McKinnie	AL7AW	UT	
L060	Glen Greeley	KL7BI	Silent Key	
L061	Timothy Michael	NL7D	AZ	
L062	Bruce Mills	KL7JDR	Silent Key	
L063	Howard Turner	W5IF, NF7T, AL7DN, WL7AOZ, WN5FCW	OK	Phone and email address needed
L064	Fielder Dowding	KL7FHX	TX	
L065	Vernie T "Bud" Epperson	WU0P, KL7OB	Silent Key	
L066	April Delancy	AL7CV	IN	
L067	Daniel Stevens	KL7WM	WA	
L068	Arthur Taylor	KL7SK	WA	Phone number needed
L069	Billy Capers	AL7BB	AK	
L070	Jean Delancy	W1JD, K1ZAT/NL7	MD	
L071	Mark Kelliher	KL7TQ	Silent Key	
L072	James Hilton	KL7IMD	AZ	Email and phone needed
L073	Robert Lupo Sr	W7ICI	Silent Key	
L074	John D Vogel	WA9C	IN	Lic canx in 2017. No obituary found. Need info.
L075	David Epstein	KL7LO	AK	
L076	John Pieniadz	AK4MW	SC	
L077	Harold Farney	KL7HQJ	Silent Key	
L078	Susan Hilton	NL7AV	AZ	Email and phone needed
L079	Douglas Dickinson	KL7IKX	Silent Key	
L080	James Bender	KL7ZV	AZ	Email and phone needed
L081	Dickson Pratt	KL7IWY	OR	Email and phone needed
L082	Alfred Giebel	KL7TO	Silent Key	
L083	Bob Farkas	KL7TP	Silent Key	
L084	Rodney Maney	KL7SA	Silent Key	

L085	Neal Fredstrom	KL7HKP/K7JEP	Silent Key	
L086	Richard Johnson	No Call	Need Info	Need Info
L087	Fred Kletka	KL7SE	Silent Key	
L088	Bill Balzarini	KL7BB	WA	
L089	Frank Bowlin	WL7D	NM	Email and phone needed
L090	Wilmot Warner	WL7J	Silent Key	
L091	Bryce Rumery	K1GAX, AL7DL	Silent Key	
L092	Jay Jennings	KL0WN	AZ	
L093	Paul Jendryk	NL7PJ	PA	Phone needed
L094	Jean Belfield	KL7VT	Silent Key	
L095	Fenton Rexford	NL7BE	AK	Email and phone needed
L096	Tibor Bathony	No Call	Need Info	Need Info
L097	Earl Plumb	KL7EQX	Silent Key	
L098	Walter Neeley	W5AHO	Silent Key	
L099	Martha Neeley	KL7QS	Silent Key	
L100	Catherine Moody	KL7NR	AK	Lic expired 2020
L101	Neil Thalaker	KL7BGZ	Silent Key	
L102	Sanford "Sandy" Hauser	None	Silent Key	
L103	Wayne Groomer	KL7HHO	Silent Key	
L104	Sue Michael	AL7BN	AZ	Email and phone needed
L105	Marvin Weatherly	W4VFE, KL7NU	Silent Key	
L106	Donald Howell	KL7IFK	AZ	Email and phone needed
L107	Hannelore Kelliher	NL7EA	AK	Email and phone needed
L108	Shari MacGregor	AL7FJ	AZ	
L109	Rachel Runyan	AL7FI	Silent Key	
L110	John Orella	KL7LL	WA	
L111	Steven Morrison	KL7ZJ	AK	License expired in 2007. Need status and contact info
L112	George Strother	KL7GS	AK	
L113	Richard Day	KL7SH	AK	License expired in 1998. Need status and contact info
L114	Richard Shafer	KL7HKH	Silent Key	

L115	Charles Coleman	KL7CMQ	Silent Key	
L116	Robert Gunson	KL7PC	ID	Email and phone needed
L117	William Thomas	KL7KI	Silent Key	
L118	Richard Phelps	K7TPN	AZ	Email and phone needed
L119	Audley Everett "Ben" Bensen	NL7EY	Silent Key	
L120	Debbie Soltis	NL7AC	AK	Email and phone needed
L121	Guy Rossini	NL7AD	Silent Key	
L122	Beverly Faultersack	WL7AXI	WA	
L123	Robert Faultersack	KL7SV	WA	
L124	Mary C Laws	NL7DM	Silent Key	
L125	Joyce Curman	KL7MQ	WA	Email and phone needed
L126	John Carty	WA1ACN	AZ	Email and phone needed
L127	Robert Christensen	KL7ERV	AK	
L128	Gregory Nightingale	KK7GN	WA	
L129	John Clough	NL7CN	AK	All info needed. May be SK prior to 1998
L130	James Minton	KL7JII	AK	Email and phone needed
L131	Joseph Talbott	KL7NK	AK	Email and phone needed
L132	Harry Gilmore	KL7VB	Silent Key	
L133	Edward Cole Jr	KL7UW	AK	
L134	Richard Dennis	KL7IOL	AK	
L135	Robert Spencer	KL7YZ	WA	License expired in 2010. Need status and contact info
L136	William P Barker	AL7JT	AK	Email and phone needed
L137	Iditarod Trail Committee	No Call	AK	
L138	Dennis Strait	NL7DN	AK	Email and phone needed
L139	Dennis Gleason	KL7GGT	AK	License expired in 2004. Need status and contact info
L140	Tom Kiester	KC7CHL	ID	License expired in 2004. Need status and contact info

L141	Marshall Ronne Jr	KL1R, KB4DX, KL7EU	AK	
L142	Beth Head	NL7FZ	MO	License expired in 2006. Need status and contact info
L143	William Missal	W1JIM	AK	Email and phone needed
L144	Thomas Sockolosky	AC2JI, KB1IMT, WL7S	NJ	Lic expired 2022, need info
L145	Harvey Rookus	NL7DK	Silent Key	
L146	Linda Searcy	NL7FY	WA	Email and phone needed
L147	John Shull Sr	W4IGM	Silent Key	
L148	Francis Soltis	KL7UQ	AK	Email and phone needed
L149	William F Harris	WL7AFN	OR	Email and phone needed
L150	Kenneth Eggleston	NL7SP	AK	
L151	Susan J Woods	NL7NN	AK	
L152	Robert C Sommer	KL7FU	FL	Email and phone needed
L153	William Phifer	AL7IG	AK	
L154	Robert O Baker Jr	NL7UQ	AK	License expired in 2010. Need status and contact info
L155	John Richards	KL7XR	Silent Key	
L156	Craig Bledsoe	KL7H, KL4E, K4TXK	AK	
L157	Scott L McCormick	KL7SLM, WL7CJM	AK	
L158	Terry Preston	WL7TY	Silent Key	
L159	Bruce McCormick	KL7BM, WL7YR	Silent Key	
L160	Orv Gilbert	KL7IZL	Silent Key	
L161	James Wiley	KL7CC	Silent Key	
L162	Jimmie Tvrdy	AD7PK, KL7CDG	Silent Key	
L163	Richard Block	KL7RLB	Silent Key	
L164	Richard Kotsch	WL7CPX	AK	
L165	Warren Tilman	KL0RA	WA	Email and phone needed
L166	John Lynn Jr	KL7CY, KL0CY	AZ / AK	
L167	Edythe Lynn	KL7EL	AZ / AK	
L168	Judi Ramage	WL7DX	Silent Key	
L169	Heather Hasper	KL7SP	Life Membership Terminated for Cause	

L170	Leon Smith	AL7TA	Silent Key	
L171	John Miller	KL7IGZ	Silent Key	
L172	Jeanette Larsen	K0JGL	Silent Key	
L173	Diane Olson	KL1MY	WA	License expired in 2013. Need status and contact info
L174	Allen DeSousa	KL7AED	AK	Need good email and phone
L175	Joseph Seibert	AL1F	TX	Email and phone needed
L176	Ronald R Keech Sr	KL7YK, KL1PL	AK	
L177	Mark Allan	KL2EC	Silent Key	
L178	Douglas Stowers	WL7CDC	Silent Key	
L179	Walter Dangel	KL7BUS	Silent Key	
L180	Barbara Pepek	KL3HC	AK	License expired in 2021. Need status and contact info
L181	Clarence Hammer	KL7CH	AK	
L182	Eric Reimer	KL2NW	WA	Email and phone needed
L183	Lorraine Tessier	KL7IAF	AK	
L184	Joel Spivey	N4ERF	AK	Email and phone needed
L185	W L "Pat" Patterson	WL7PP, WL1PP, KL2XJ	AK	
L186	James Kohl	KL7KK	AK	
L187	Alice Baker	KL2GD	Silent Key	
L188	Lara Baker	AL2R	Silent Key	
L189	Steven M Antonucci	KL3VL	AK	
L190	Allen L Abbott	KB1QCE	FL	
L191	George Wilkinson	KL1JJ	AK	
L192	John C Bury	KL7QZ	AK	
L193	Harold K Clark	KL7MM	AK	
L194	David H Heimke	AL7LO	AK	
L195	Theodore J Sheffield	KL7TS	AK	
L196	James R Wardman	AL4W	AK	
L197	Dave W Webb	N9AIG	AK	
L198	Jill T Heimke	WL7BTT	AK	

L199	Leonard R Grijalva	KL3OG	AK
L200	Richard Phillip Tweet	KL2AZ	AK
L201	Richard J Helms	KL1NH	AK
L202	Josef E Princiotta	KL4VB	AK
L203	Matthew Loschiavo	AG5YR	TX
L204	James D Wolgemuth	KL3RC	AK
L205	Tyler D Nicholas	N5UC	AK
L206	Frederick Kirch	K3IKY	Quebec
L207	John H Marton	AL7LN	AK
L208	Keith S Austin	KL2JE	AK
L209	Mark Richey	KL3MR	AK
L210	Kenneth W Langford	KL5CF	AK
L211	Drew A Peterson	N0DAP	CO
L212	David L Filley	WL7CDJ	AK
L213	Michael Baker	NL7J	AK
L214	Mario M Cruz	KL5FX	AK
L215	Anthony V Migliorino	KC3RVI	PA
L216	Maximo A Moore	KL5GH	AK
L217	Richard G Gillin	AL4S	AK
L218	Robert K Kelly	KL7EN	AK
L219	Brian Leon	KL5CU	AK
L220	Dana A Gandy	AF7UM	AK
L221	Gallina Gandy	KA7GAL	AK
L222	Michael Gibson	KL5AX	AK
L223	Larry Kent Petty	KL5T, NL7VJ, KA3VKV, HL9KL, HL9KLN, HL9KLT	AK
L224	Steven W Carraway	KL4OX	AK
L225	Brian W Palenske	KL4SY	AK
L226	Clarence M Douthett	KA0YPV	AK
L227	John J Zelinsky	AL6W	AK
L228	Rick Carl	WO1FMN	OR

L229	John C Nowacki	W3NA	ME	
L230	Kellye Eversole	K1SOE	MA	
L231	Michael McLaughlin	KL7USX	AK	
L232	Tylor E Wilson	KL5TW	AK	
L233	James R Gifford	KL1IO	AK	
L234	Leif A Sawyer	KL5BN	AK	
L235	Pieter M Van Weel	KL2CR	AK	
L236 *	Paul Fairchild	AL4G	AK	
L237 *	Stephen Bloom	KL7SB	AK	
L238 *	John Bains-Jordan	KL7ICB	AK	
L239 *	Don Bush	KL7JFT	AK	
L240	John W Bruce	KL4O	AK	
L241	Randy Darrell Wiggins	W4AI	TN	
L242	Charles Brown	KL5C	AK	
L243	Frederick Sprunger	KL5QJ	AK	
L244	David Templeton Jr	N4NG	FL	
L245	Jeremiah Walters	WL7BUN	AK	
L246	Eric Fell	NL5E	AK	
L247	Cornelius "Corny"Eastman	KL0FK	AK	
L248	Justin Jones	KE8WYZ	MI	
LHON	Lillian Marvin	KL7YF	AK	
LHON	Rosemary K Hanrath	KL7LA	Silent Key	
LHON	Delbert "Del" Earl Hanrath	KL7JKW	Silent Key	
LHON	John Lawson	NL7NC	AK	Email and phone needed

Face Mask Policy

1. The AARC will follow Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) guidelines and recommendations relative to airborne communicable diseases (such as COVID-19). If additional state or local recommendations or mandates are levied, they shall be followed as applicable.
 2. If mask use is recommended, the AARC will make face masks available. However, the AARC will not provide any elastomeric or similar respirators.
 3. Anyone who wishes to wear a protective face mask or respirator at AARC facilities or in-person AARC activities is encouraged to do so.
 4. Anyone who has been exposed to an airborne communicable disease is prohibited from visiting AARC facilities or participating at in-person AARC activities for a time period as indicated by CDC guidelines.
 5. Anyone who has an airborne communicable disease is prohibited from visiting AARC facilities or participating at in-person AARC activities while the illness is transmittable.
 6. Every disease has different characteristics, incubation periods, and transmissibility, so it is impossible to describe controls within this policy that are all inclusive. Good judgment must be used which includes guidelines recommended by the CDC and similar organizations.
-

CDC COVID-19 Status for the Municipality of Anchorage as of the writing of this newsletter:

Low

In **Anchorage Muny, Alaska**, the COVID-19 hospital admission level is **Low**.

- [Stay up to date](#) with COVID-19 vaccines.
- Maintain [ventilation improvements](#).
- Avoid contact with people who have suspected or confirmed COVID-19.
- Follow recommendations for [isolation](#) if you have suspected or confirmed COVID-19.
- Follow the recommendations for [what to do if you are exposed](#) to someone with COVID-19.
- If you are at [high risk of getting very sick](#), talk with a healthcare provider about additional prevention actions

Public Service Activities

Members of the AARC provide communications and logistics support for a host of events throughout the year, but usually during the warm months. These events are usually a charity fund raising race or event. To learn more about HOW we actually support these events, how to prepare, and what to expect, visit our AARC Volunteer FAQ here: <https://kl7aa.org/public-service-activities/aarc-volunteer-faq/>

Contact: development@gmail.com

Current Service Volunteer Opportunities

MS Walk



MS Walk, Sunday, Saturday, May 4, 2024. Contact Keith Clark, KL7MM at aksunlite@aol.com.

Gold Nugget Triathlon



Gold Nugget Triathlon, Sunday, May 19, 2024, contact Riley Petty at riley.petty@kl7aa.org

Alaska Run for Women



Alaska Run for Women, Saturday June 8, 2024, contact Jim McDonald at jim.macdonald@kl7aa.org

AARC Vision - *An inclusive community of engaged, trained, and prepared emergency communication volunteers*

ARRL Field Day



Field Day, Saturday, June 22, 2024. Contact: WE NEED A CHAMPION!

Friends of Pets Dog Job



Friends of Pets Dog Jog, Saturday, July ??, 2024. Contact TJ Sheffield, KL7TS at vicepresident@kl7aa.org.

Anchorage RunFest



Anchorage RunFest, Sunday, August 18, 2024. Contact Keith Clark, KL7MM at aksunlite@aol.com.

Walk for Hope



Walk For Hope, Sunday, September 8, 2024. Contact Keith Clark, KL7MM at aksunlite@aol.com.

Hamfest Happenings

Many folks want us to have a Hamfest. Unfortunately, none of the folks we hear from are willing to step forward to champion such an event. Until a champion steps up, there will be no Hamfest. Are you willing to step up? Please?

Let us know! Drop a message to info@kl7aa.org.

Elmers - Mentors

What is an Elmer?

Elmer – “Someone who provides personal guidance and assistance to would-be hams and also to hams that are seeking personal assistance in specific areas of the amateur radio hobby.” — N2QOJ

Following is our Elmer registry. If you need help getting into the hobby or are already an amateur and need some help or advice, you can reach out to one or more of the folks listed below. Please remember, Elmers are volunteers so be respectful of their time! If you need help, please be flexible and reachable by the Elmer that you request.

Are you willing to “give back”? If so, become an Elmer yourself, please [CLICK HERE](#) to fill out a cool form to get you on this list!

Name	Call	Contact Info	Area of Expertise
Craig Bledsoe	KL7H	kl7h@arrl.net, (907) 694.4730	Amplifiers, Antennas, Basic Electronics, Direction Finding, D-Star, DXing, EME (Moon Bounce), Emergency Communications, Feedlines and Connectors, Filtering, General Amateur Info, General Electronics, General HF Ops, General VHF/UHF Ops, Grounding, HF Digital (other than Winlink), HF Propagation, License Exam Prep, License Testing, Logging, Microwave, Mobile Installations, Morse Code (CW), Power Supplies, QRP, Radio Theory, Repeaters, Satellites, Test Equipment, Towers, VHF/UHF Digital (other than Winlink), Winlink
Paul Fairchild	AL4G	paul.h.fairchild@gmail.com	Antennas, Basic Electronics, Feedlines and Connectors, License Exam Prep, Power Supplies, Towers, Mechanical/Electrical engineering, financial analysis, Petroleum and natural gas processing
Matt Notte	WL4DX	wl4dx@outlook.com, 907.885.1185	Basic Electronics, DMR, D-Star, EchoLink / IRLP, Fusion, General Electronics, General

			VHF/UHF Ops, HF Digital (other than Winlink), License Exam Prep, Logging, Pi-Star, Portable Hotspots, code Plugs for DMR, Allstar Nodes
Kent Petty	KL5T	kent.petty@kl7aa.org	Antennas, APRS, Direction Finding, Emergency Communications, Feedlines and Connectors, General Amateur Info, General HF Ops, General VHF/UHF Ops, Grounding, HF Propagation, License Exam Prep, License Testing, MESH Networking, Mobile Installations, Morse Code (CW), Radio Theory, Repeaters, SHARES, VHF/UHF Digital (other than Winlink), Winlink

Major Projects

There are many projects ongoing with the club. Due to time constraints, no projects report will be included in this newsletter.

From Our Members

Justin Jones, KE8WYZ – My Why

Hi, I am Justin Jones, KE8WYZ, I'm new to AARC and newer to Ham Radio in general, I'm at the one-year mark from my official start of ordering my books. The reason I got into Amateur Radio seems kind of silly and still trying to figure out why I have a yearning for it.

I'm a Mechanical Engineer, and at the time, working for an automotive company near Detroit, Michigan. While at work in 2022 and entering yet another year of dealing with ever changing work COVID restrictions, my boss was hammering me for some specific details about one of my many projects I was working on. I'm usually on my game, but for some reason I was just out of it and couldn't focus, I wasn't able to satisfactorily answer his many questions and not sure why. I knew the answers, but they were not coming to light at the time, it was like my critical thinking skills were turned off. After the meeting, I began thinking back and realized those skills had been off for some time now. I heard of some side effects after having COVID and 'Brain Fog' was one of them, I guessed that this was it.

Being an Engineer, I thought to set up an experiment to test myself on whether my critical thinking skills were being affected. I had that yearning to get into HAM at that time and thought the best way was to buy the ARRL books and start reading, this way I could see if my reading comprehension was working and gauge if my memory was working and holding the data. I started taking the practice tests for each section just to track my results and gauge my progress. Maybe by doing this, it would reboot my brain to get moving again.

I ended up taking the Technician exam and passed the first time, but felt like I should have did better. I needed to prepare more for the General, which I did, and about a couple months later I passed with a 35/35. I was like "Great!" My experiment was working out well, plus I was learning something new that I had an interest in. Judging from my pace I figured the Extra would take about the double amount of time due to the volume of questions, like 4 months total, no biggie. After 6 months, my practice test results ranged from 60% to 80% consistently and felt like I hit a hump in my memory regurgitation skill. I tried my first Extra exam and failed with a 35/50, it was a good 'learner'.

I had worked through the ARRL book and peaked, then heard a suggestion to try a Gordon West book and CD, which I did, which was good, but I did not see a lot of improvement and needed to make another change and try something else. I tried HamRadioPrep.com, went through the material and found it cleared up a lot my missing questions. I attempted my second Extra exam about a month later and passed with a 45/50. I had finally reached my HAM goal and realized my brain is working, but just seems slower than before. I'm not sure it's from COVID or just my progression of getting older.

I have a weird attraction to HAM radio, still trying to figure out why and where my place is within it. I've started to study for a Morse Code certification to learn something new for my newly created goal for continuous self-improvement. Any other suggestions would be happily entertained.

During this timeframe, I bought a couple Baofeng handheld radios, 70cm/2m bands, to play with but really need to get a HF radio, maybe next month I can talk about my Line A experience.

Anyways thanks for listening and having me.

Justin Jones

justin.jones.a@gmail.com

KE8WYZ

Donald Schneider, NB5C – Rain Gutter Antenna

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**Need a Stealthy Antenna? Get in the Gutter! by Michael Davis, k2mol
(Submitted to QST Magazine, March, 2023).**

I've lived in Homeowners Associations (HOA) for more than twenty years in the states of Florida and Georgia and with their typically beautiful homes, manicured lawns and high home values, frankly I wouldn't live anywhere else. However, as an amateur radio operator I've often faced Covenants, Conditions, and Restrictions (CC&Rs) that prohibited me from setting up an outdoor hf antenna.

I was first licensed in South Florida in 2009 as a Tech and spent two years using the 5W handheld Yaesu VX-7R to work local 2m repeater nets. In 2011 I upgraded to General and later that year purchased my first 100 watt transceiver, the Yaesu FT857D. I hadn't given much thought to an outdoor antenna and soon realized that I had to figure out how best to get around the CC&Rs.

Chihuahua, Mexico:

I researched several stealth antenna options and finally settled on a rain gutter since one was available on my condo back wall. That first attempt on September 19, 2012 was nothing more than a crude coax connection between my antenna tuner and the gutter (A). Running full power (100W) that day netted me my first rain gutter contact with XE2KGR (B), a station in Chihuahua, Mexico about 1,600 miles from my QTH in South Florida.

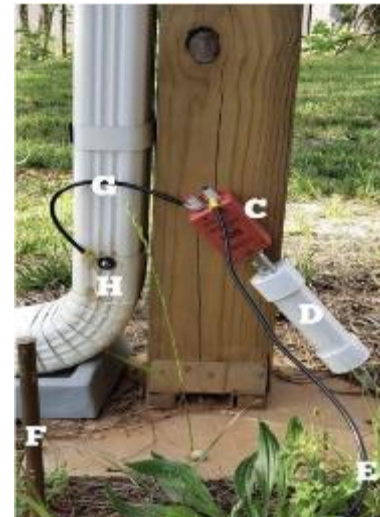


I made several more contacts with my rain gutter antenna before I irreparably blew the finals in my Yaesu 857D. I was unaware that I needed several additional, critically important components to the gutter system, without which my station was susceptible to very high levels of SWR, hence the blown finals.

Unun and Choke: I discovered that I needed an impedance match and rf choke between the gutter and the station. I now suspect that not having either with my first gutter was probably the cause for my blown finals. Lesson learned. Since the gutter and the coax to the station are both unbalanced I installed an unun (C) between them and added the MFJ-915 rf isolator (D) beneath the unun to prevent any rf going back down the coax to the station. You needn't purchase an rf isolator as I did; you can roll your own choke with about 6-8 turns of the coax around a 1 liter-sized soda bottle in diameter and zip tie it just beneath the unun.



I then sank a 4' copper ground rod (F) a few inches from the gutter and connected the unun to the gutter and the ground rod with #18 AWG wires (G&E). Make sure to sand off any paint from the gutter to create greater electrical connectivity at the feedpoint (H).



UNUN AND CHOKE

Ground Plane:

A ground plane system was also missing beneath my first rain gutter antenna in South Florida so having learned that valuable lesson I added elevated counterpoise wires, each cut to a 1/4 wave in length for 80-10m to enhance the rain gutter's overall ground plane efficiency. I twisted the eight wires together at one end and secured that end to the ground rod with a ground rod clamp (I). I then deployed the elevated wires in a fan configuration to my deck posts (J). The xyl wasn't having any of my digging up our beautiful back yard for radials so the elevated radials were the next best thing.



Remote or Not to Remote:

Conventional wisdom suggests that a remote tuner at the feedpoint offers a better delivery of power to the antenna. In a stealth configuration I prefer less conspicuous components at the feedpoint so using a tuner at the station works just as well.

Rain Gutter Condition:

The rain gutter I currently use is a 20' vertical section of an inverted "U" gutter system at the back of my qth (K). The gutters were new as the house was new and never occupied when we bought it. All parts are connected to create a 78' long random wire antenna. Your rain gutters are not required to be new but they should be connected. If not, just run jumper cables or wires to create connectivity.



Working the World:

I can work any mode (ssb/digital/cw) with my station and rain gutter. For safety reasons I limit and would encourage any and all rain gutter antenna operators to limit their transmitting power into a rain gutter to no more than 100 watts PEP. I successfully worked the 2021 Thirteen Colonies (L) on ssb and since switching to digital modes and reducing power I've nearly completed my Worked All States pursuit with mixed modes (SSB/FT8 and PSK31). My neighbors are none the wiser and I have the best of both worlds: a great HOA community and a stealth amateur radio station. You too can do this. And remember, when the HOA says no, the rain gutter antenna says YES!



David Haycock - KI6AWR Joins AARC VE Team

Hello from Gig Harbor WA. My callsign is KI6AWR and I am a newly minted AARC VE. Although I am unlikely to attend meetings in person, I can at least keep in touch by Zoom and maybe radio too!

What have I been up to recently?

Thinking of ways to attract the kids to become fascinated by wireless. In the face of so many alternatives, getting youngsters interested in amateur radio is becoming more difficult. We need to make it seem both interesting and rewarding and fortunately there is a good list of topics to help in exploring that. Recognizing that hands on and practical experiments are a good entry point I have started to create an experimental antenna demo workshop.

Using 3D printing and some metal parts I now have a handheld VHF/UHF antenna with built in power monitor (aka light bulb). Yes, you can literally see eyes light up and brains engage when the audience witnesses firsthand how radio waves propagate. Abstract concepts like polarization, directionality, antenna gain, spreading loss, and capture area come to life with nothing more than a couple of antennas, an HT and a light bulb. This follows in the footsteps of the original groundbreaking experiments by Heinrich Hertz way back in 1886.

Below is a photo of the receive antenna, a handheld 2m/440 dipole. You can accomplish a lot just on the 2m band, but this kit includes elements for both the 70cm band and also (for other reasons) the GMRS band. You can keep it simple by sticking to 2m.

Hertz's experiments were performed on the 6m band (another reason to call it the "magic band"?) but 2m is much more practical for demonstration purposes.



The two pieces of coax are the matching network for the 3.8 V light bulb used as the power monitor. The pipe at the end is the handle mounted to a Tee adapter which enables the whole thing to rotate smoothly on 3D printed adapters attached to the boom.

For more information email ki6awr@arrl.net.

From the Blog

Please note Items in this section may be obsolete at the time of publishing or reading this newsletter. They are published here as a record of happenings and communications via our website blog. Items are published in the order they were published on our blog.

We welcome contributions of “content” to our website blog and newsletter. In case you hadn’t noticed, anything that lands on the website’s blog also gets published in our newsletter. Oh, yes, and it also gets pushed out to our Facebook page and X pages. Further, members receive an e-mail to let them know about the post, and we even send out a notice on the KL7AA reflector to let folks know about it.

That said, if you’d like to make a post/article on something you find interesting yourself and believe it might be useful for other members of the club, please send your writeup to editor@kl7aa.org. Include photos, etc. if you’d like, but please try to have them appropriately sized (compressed).

We’ll review your submission, and so long it is focused on the many facets of our hobby, not offensive, etc., etc., we will be happy to publish it.

Thanks and 73

FREE ONLINE HAM RADIO CLASS – June 26-30

Posted By Kent Petty On June 9, 2023 @ 10:16 AM In Education, License Testing

June 26-30, 2023

Covers Technician AND General classes!

Taught via Zoom.

The current General class (Element 3) question pool is valid until June 30, 2023.

This is your chance!

I’m taking advantage of the overlap in material.

I always cover too much detail for the technician exam, so why not?

You decide what you're going to practice for.

I'm there to teach you.

Monday – Thursday, 8-noon PDT

We are working to schedule online exams for Friday.

You DO NOT have to take an exam to be a part of the class.

To register, send an email to ars.n7ji@gmail.com ^[1]

name

email address

phone number for EACH attendee.

Thanks!

Scott N7JI

QST QST QST – In-Person License Exam – KENAI

By KENT PETTY Published JUNE 20, 2023

If you want to want to upgrade your license by taking your exam in person in the Kenai/Soldotna/Sterling/Nikiski area, or, if you know a friend who has been studying for their license and wants to get their ticket or upgrade their existing license and take their exam in person, we'll be holding an in-person license exam session on Saturday, July 8, 2023 at 10 AM Alaska Time.

Where: Residence of KL5T
49385 Georgine Court
Nikiski, Alaska

PLEASE BRING: A simple calculator (if you need it for the exam)

PLEASE BRING: Photo ID

PLEASE BRING: A laptop computer (if you have one). Why? Exams are administered on a computer, and you can use yours.

You'll need to register for the session here. Please follow all instructions. Here is the link:

<https://kl7aa.org/in-person-testing/>

Also, please remember that we offer remote testing twice daily, Monday through Saturday. Here is the link for our remote testing page:

<https://kl7aa.org/vec/remote-testing/>

Email vec@kl7aa.org with any questions.

Hope to see you register!

73,

Kent Petty, KL5T, Chairman
Anchorage ARC VEC

Kenai/Soldotna Area Volunteer Examiners Needed

By KENT PETTY Published JUNE 20, 2023

We are attempting to re-establish an in-person license testing capability in the Kenai/Soldotna area but need to re-establish a cadre of volunteer examiners (VEs) in the area to do so.

We do have a testing session scheduled for July 8 in Nikiski and could use an additional in-person VE. At present, we have 2, and without a 3rd VE we'll be in a pickle and need to bring a 3rd VE in remotely (this kind of defeats the purpose of an in-person exam).

If you are a General Class license holder or above residing in the Kenai/Soldotna area, please consider joining the Anchorage ARC VEC team. All examinations are now administered via a computer so the paperwork process is much simpler than in the past! Pass a simple 30-question open-book examination, get set up as a VE in our system, and you are off to the races!

Go here to learn more and to APPLY to become a VE: <https://kl7aa.org/vec/become-accruited/>

We are also interested in re-establishing in-person testing teams in other areas of the state. If you are willing to help form a team, please drop a note to vec@kl7aa.org.

Thanks and 73,

Kent Petty, KL5T, Chairman
Anchorage ARC VEC

South Peninsula Amateur Radio Club (SPARC) – Radio Interview

Posted By *Kent Petty* On June 20, 2023 @ 8:05 AM In General Info

Listen to a cool interview on local Homer local AM radio broadcast radio station KBBI with President Rick Baird, K7VRK and Treasurer Toby Reich, KL2T of SPARC.

[Listen to the Interview](#)

Way to go guys!

6-Meters Cranking Up – From Fairbanks...

Posted By *Kent Petty* On July 10, 2023 @ 11:34 PM In 6 Meters,DX

This afternoon I was sniffing around 6 meters and wound up working 30 stations on FT8 from Fairbanks.

So many stations were calling that I had to make the WSJT-X window taller. So many stations were calling on each cycle that they were scrolling off the top of the window before I could copy my signal report. See the image below...

This lasted for over an hour.

You never know so tune around. That band might not be dead after all.

73,

John Antonuk

AL7ID@yahoo.com

AL7D Logbook															List Incoming Awards Leaderboard Help		
Enter Call...			Add QSO		QSOs: 2941 Confirmed: 1458 Countries: 132												
Counts could be delayed - click refresh																	
1 of 15			Search...		Filter: All QSOs												
#	Date	Time	Call	Band	Freq	Mode	Grid	Country	Operator Name	Comments	Sent	Rcvd					
1	2023-07-10	23:42	JJ1NLR	50.313	FT8	PM9 6...	Japan	Hikaru Nozawa			-08	-14					
2	2023-07-10	23:33	JH2GZY	50.313	FT8	PM9 4...	Japan	KIYOSHI OHATA			+01	-19					
3	2023-07-10	23:31	JA5SUD	50.313	FT8	PM7 4...	Japan	MORITA KOJI			-04	-13					
4	2023-07-10	23:30	JH3FHQ	50.313	FT8	PM7 4...	Japan	Yoshiro Okamoto			+13	-09					
5	2023-07-10	23:28	JE2LPC	50.313	FT8	PM8 5...	Japan	TAKAO YANASE			-15	-22					
6	2023-07-10	23:27	JH4JNG	50.313	FT8	PM7 5...	Japan	YOSHIYASU NAITO "YOSHIF"			+06	-13					
7	2023-07-10	23:26	JA5EXN	50.313	FT8	PM6 3...	Japan	Tsutomu 'Ben' Saki			-01	-02					
8	2023-07-10	23:25	JH2JNU	50.313	FT8	PM8 4...	Japan	TOYOHISA OHBA			-05	-14					
9	2023-07-10	23:24	JA2VXZ	50.313	FT8	PM8 4...	Japan	Yoshimitsu Kaneko			+08	-14					
10	2023-07-10	23:22	J11UMC	50.313	FT8	PM8 6...	Japan	Yonosuke Harada			-14	-16					
11	2023-07-10	23:21	JA9IPF	50.313	FT8	PM8 6...	Japan	SYUICHI ASANO			+02	-10					
12	2023-07-10	23:19	JA7WSZ	50.313	FT8	QM0 7...	Japan	Kouichi Hamana			+04	-14					
13	2023-07-10	23:16	JA3LZS	50.313	FT8	PM7 4...	Japan	KIYOHISA WADA			+00	-13					
14	2023-07-10	23:15	JA1AFR	50.313	FT8	QM0 5...	Japan	Kenji Nishimura			+05	-10					
15	2023-07-10	23:13	JA3JTG	50.313	FT8	PM7 5...	Japan	Kazutaka 'Kazu' Yamauchi			-16	-09					
16	2023-07-10	23:11	JA0DET	50.313	FT8	PM9 7...	Japan	Shigeo Shimazu			+02	-10					
17	2023-07-10	23:07	JA7QVI	50.313	FT8	QM0 8...	Japan	TAC TAKASHI HIRAMA			+21	-04					
18	2023-07-10	23:06	J11RUC	50.313	FT8	PM9 5...	Japan	MITSUHARU (HARU) ISHIBASHI			-01	-16					
19	2023-07-10	23:02	JA1QJI	50.313	FT8	PM9 5...	Japan	Shin HNOKIMOTO			+00	-11					
20	2023-07-10	23:00	JH8JWF	50.313	FT8	QM0 2...	Japan	EKI SATOMI			+14	-19					
21	2023-07-10	22:58	JA6TEW	50.313	FT8	PM5 3...	Japan	Masahisa(Masa) Miyaji			+16	-10					
22	2023-07-10	22:57	JG1TSG	50.313	FT8	QM0 5...	Japan	KAZUYA SHIMONO			+06	-16					
23	2023-07-10	22:56	JH0INP	50.313	FT8	PM9 6...	Japan	HIROSHI MIYASHITA			+05	-15					
24	2023-07-10	22:55	JH4IUO	50.313	FT8	PM6 4...	Japan	Yoshinari Ikeda			-01	-18					
25	2023-07-10	22:54	JH6VXP	50.313	FT8	PM6 3...	Japan	KENJI ONOUE			+14	-03					
26	2023-07-10	22:53	JH6RKI	50.313	FT8	PM5 3...	Japan	Shuichi Ito			-08	-19					
27	2023-07-10	22:51	JM1IGJ	50.313	FT8	PM9 5...	Japan	TAKAYUKI YAMAGUCHI			+00	-18					
28	2023-07-10	22:48	JA4ICR	50.313	FT8	PM6 4...	Japan	Kashiwa "Norit"			+07	-17					
29	2023-07-10	22:47	JE6KYA	50.313	FT8	PM5 3...	Japan	Shoichiro Nakagami			-11	-13					

QST QST QST – In Person License Exam Session, Anchorage, August 16, 2023

Posted By *Kent Petty* On July 18, 2023 @ 8:05 AM In License Testing, VEC

If you want to want to upgrade your license by taking your exam in person in Anchorage, or, if you know a friend who has been studying for their license and wants to get their ticket or upgrade their existing license and take their exam in person, we'll be holding an in-person license exam session on Wednesday, August 16, 2023 at 6 PM Alaska Time.

Where: Radio Science and Operations Center
6721 Raspberry Road
Anchorage, Alaska

PLEASE BRING: A simple calculator (if you need it for the exam)
PLEASE BRING: Photo ID

AARC Vision - *An inclusive community of engaged, trained, and prepared emergency communication volunteers*

You'll need to register for the session here. Please follow all instructions. Here is the link:
<https://kl7aa.org/in-person-testing/>

Also, please remember that we offer remote testing twice daily, Monday through Saturday. Here is the link for our remote testing page:
<https://kl7aa.org/vec/remote-testing/>

In-person testing will be a great way for you to visit our exceptionally awesome Radio Science and Operations Center!

Hope to see you register!

73,

Kent Petty, KL5T, Chairman
Anchorage ARC VEC

Kent Petty

We Lost Two Friends

Posted By *Kent Petty* On August 25, 2023 @ 8:14 AM In Obituary, Silent Key

I'm sorry to report that we've lost two of our amateur brethren recently.

Gordon Nightingale, KL7GN and Lara Baker, AL2R both became silent keys recently. Gordon passed on August 3rd and Lara passed on August 10th. Both were long-time members and supporters of the club. We will miss them both.

A Mass will be held for Gordon on Wednesday, August 30th at 1:30 pm at the Anchorage Pioneer Home, Tundra Room. A military service and burial will be on Thursday, August 31st at 1:00 pm at the Fort Richardson Cemetery. Gordon's full obituary can be found here: <https://www.janssenfuneralhomes.com/obituaries/Gordon-James-Nightingale?obld=28778296#/celebrationWall>

We are still waiting for word on Lara's obituary and any memorial plans.

Kent Petty

5167.5 kHz Alaska Emergency Frequency test this Saturday AUG 26 at 1000 local

Posted By *Kent Petty* On August 25, 2023 @ 8:29 AM In EMCOMM,RSOC
Operations

On the last Saturday of each month, at 1000 local time, Department of Homeland Security (DHS) Shared Resources (SHARES) Auxiliary Station NNAØLP will host a test of the Alaska Emergency Frequency on 5167.5 kHz.

Remember, Amateur radio operation on 5167.5 kHz is permitted only during emergencies, and for “serious, and extremely professional emergency drills and tests,” per [FCC Report & Order 06-149A1](#). These monthly tests are considered “drills and tests”.

IMPORTANT: Part 97.401(d) authorizes ONLY amateur stations in Alaska, or at a location within 92.6 kilometers of Alaska where the FCC regulates the amateur service, to transmit on 5167.5 kHz.

Use only upper sideband USB (J3E or R3E).

Continuous Wave CW (A1A) and digital modes (F1B, J2B, etc.) are not authorized on this frequency.

Maximum power is 150 watts. There are no restrictions on types of antennas.

Each month, a summary report regarding this test is sent to the State of Alaska Emergency Operations Center (SEOC) and Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Region X staff are copied in.

Thanks very much,

TJ Sheffield, KL7TS, Station Manager

Radio Science and Operations Center (RSOC)

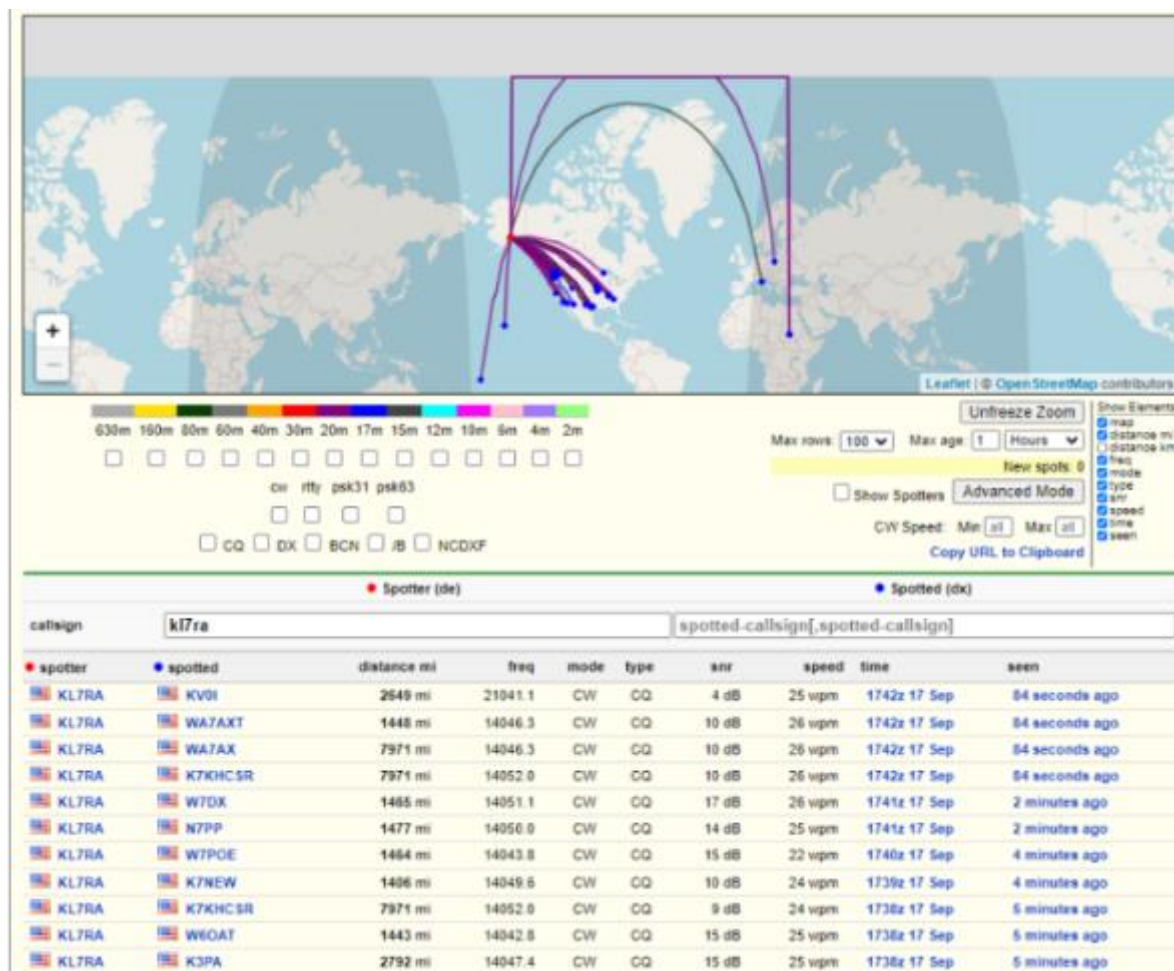
Kent Petty

Skimmer Station Operational in South Central Alaska

Posted By *Kent Petty* On September 17, 2023 @ 11:04 AM In
Contesting,CW,DX,HF

Have you heard of the Reverse Beacon Network or RBN? If not, you might find it very interesting and helpful if you are an HF DXer or contester. With the RBN, instead of beacons actively transmitting CW signals like on the NCDXF/IARU International Beacon Project, a network of stations listen to the bands and report what CW stations they hear, when, and how well. It is a great way to see how you might be heard in locations around the world, but also a great way to see what stations might be heard in your local area in case there is an RBN network station in your vicinity.

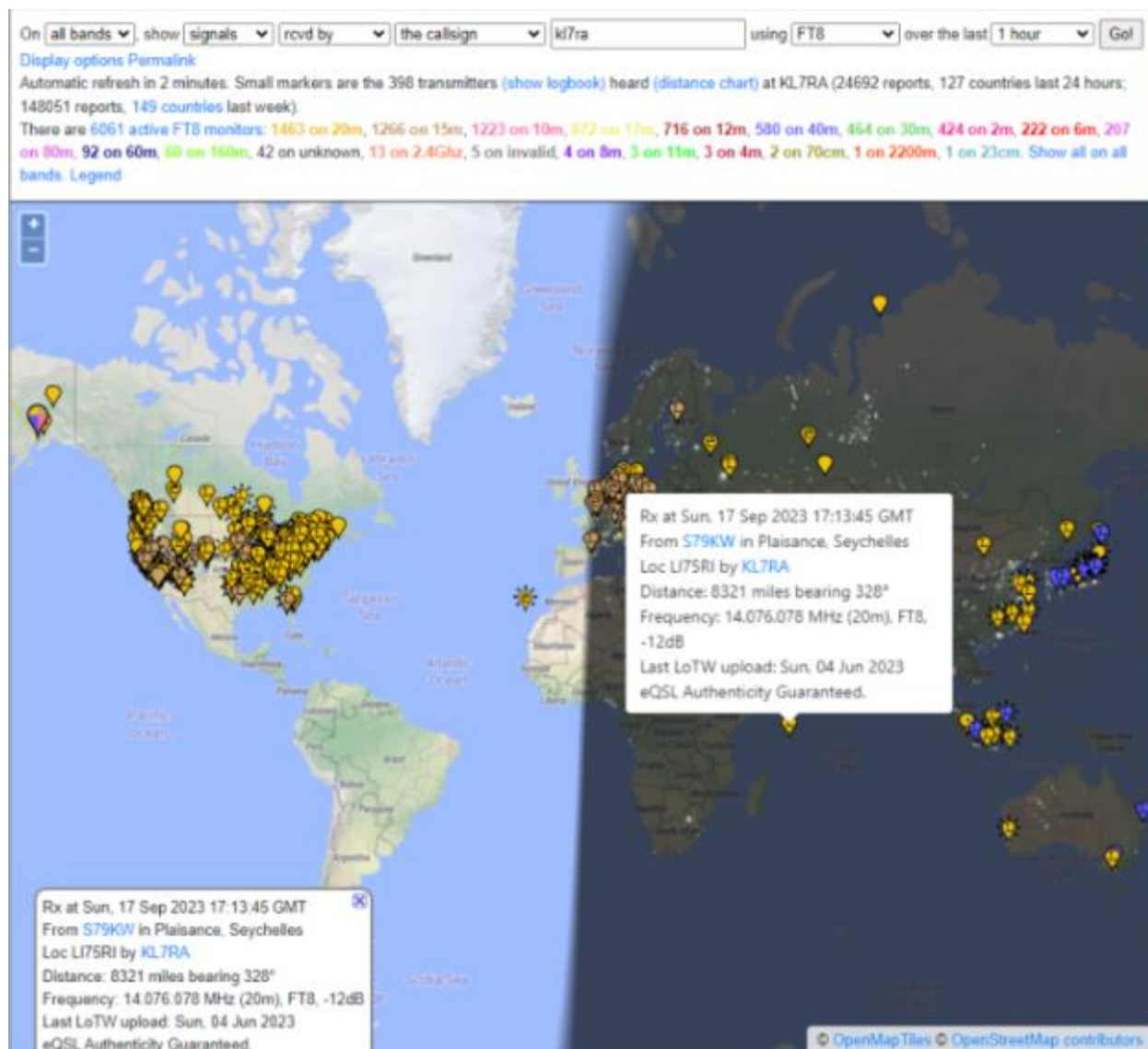
If you live in South Central Alaska, you now have an RBN network station available! In the past few months, we've set up an RBN receiving station at KL5T's Nikiski residence which is reporting to the RBN under callsign KL7RA. Here is a screenshot of the activity noted in the last hour before writing this post:



You can see from this screenshot that you can set all types of filters. In this case, the filter was set to only show stations spotted by KL7RA within the last hour and limited to 100 rows. You can filter by band, modes, type of transmission, CW speed, and more.

Here is a link set up to show the [RBN with spotter station KL7RA reporting pretty much all CW signals heard](#) ^[1] (it generally reports stations calling "CQ"). This link is also provided under the [HF Propagation Tools page on our website](#) ^[2].

But there is more! The KL7RA receiving station ALSO reports what it hears on FT8. You can see the results of what it hears on the PSK reporter. Here is a screenshot of what the KL7RA station heard in the last hour before writing this post:



Again, from this screenshot, you can see that you can set all types of filters. When you hover over a station listed on the map, that station's information is presented on the screen. In this case, I clicked on the marker for the Seychelles station, S79KW. It indicates it was heard on 14.076.078 MHz, FT8, at -12dB.

Here is a link set up to show the PSKReporter with spotter station KL7RA reporting FT8 signals heard within the last hour [3]. This link is also provided under the HF Propagation Tools page on our website [2].

Good DXing and 73!

Kent Petty

Anchorage 220 MHz Repeater Installed and Operational

Posted By *Kent Petty* On September 22, 2023 @ 7:34 AM In 220 MHz, Repeaters

The long-awaited Bridgecom 220 MHz repeater is now installed and operational at our Hillside South site. We formerly had another 220 repeater installed at Glen Alps just a couple miles to the south. The installation at Hillside South should provide similar coverage from areas on the Kenai Peninsula, Anchorage, Wasilla, and on up towards Talkeetna. Please see the coverage map shown at the end of this post.

Here are the repeater's particulars:

Input Frequency: 223.34 MHz
Output Frequency: 224.94 MHz
CTCSS Tone Required: 100.0

The repeater ALSO transmits a CTCSS tone of 123.0 on its output to help those who may have local interference.

Please send reception reports to info@kl7aa.org to let us know about the coverage or performance you note with this machine.

Here is the projected coverage map:



ARRL Alaska Section Manager Election Upcoming

Posted By *Kent Petty* On September 27, 2023 @ 12:19 PM In ARRL, Elections

AARC Vision - *An inclusive community of engaged, trained, and prepared emergency communication volunteers*

Two candidates have registered with the ARRL to vie for the new Alaska Section Manager term starting on January 1, 2023. David Stevens, KL7EB of Anchorage, and Jeff Wolf, N8EX of Seward will be on the ballot.

Ballots will be mailed out to ARRL members in good standing on October 1, 2023 and must be returned to the ARRL no later than November 20, 2023. The ballots will be counted on November 21, 2023. If you are a League member, please review the candidates' statements linked below and let your voice be heard by returning your completed ballot.

Please view the candidate statements they each provided to the ARRL (click on the name):

[David Stevens, KL7EB](#)

[Jeff Wolf, N8EX](#) ^[2]

What are the duties of the Section Manager? [From the ARRL website:](#)

The [Section](#) Manager is accountable for carrying out the duties of the office in accordance with ARRL policies established by the Board of Directors and shall act in the best interests of Amateur Radio.

Responsibilities:

- The SM recruits, appoints, and supervises section-level staff to administer the Field Organization's principal areas of responsibility in the section. These areas are emergency communications, message traffic relay, technical activity / problem solving, volunteer monitoring, government relations, public relations in the general community, information services for amateurs, and cooperation with affiliated clubs.
- Appoints qualified ARRL members in the section to other volunteer positions in support of Field Organization objectives, and may authorize section-level staff to make such appointments.
- Keeps well informed concerning matters of ARRL policy so as to administer the Field Organization in accordance with current policy and to provide correct information in response to members' inquiries.
- Supervises the activities of the section-level staff, monitors the performance of the Field Organization volunteers, and provides guidance as necessary to ensure that appointees act in the best interests of Amateur Radio and in accordance with ARRL policies.
- Maintains liaison with the Division Director; makes periodic reports to the Director regarding the status of Section activities; receives information and guidance pertaining to matters of mutual concern and interest from the Director; serves on the Division Cabinet and renders advice as requested by the Director.
- Conducts correspondence and other communications with ARRL members and affiliated clubs in the Section; makes personal visits to clubs, hamfests, and conventions; responds to members' questions and concerns or refers them to an appropriate person or office in the League organization; maintains liaison with representative frequency coordinator(s) having jurisdiction in the Section.
- Writes, or supervises preparation of, a monthly "Section News;" uses electronic communications, such as the Internet, to distribute information about Section activities and to encourage member participation in the Field Organization.
- Promotes recruitment of new amateurs and new ARRL members
- Encourages attitudes and actions which welcome new radio amateurs and integrate them into League and club activities.
- Each new Section Manager shall be required to participate in a Section Manager orientation training session that is conducted by ARRL Headquarters.

Inagural Challenge Coins – Just 100 produced – get yours before they are gone

Posted By *Kent Petty* On September 28, 2023 @ 11:22 AM In AARC and RSOC Products, Club Products, Fundraising



Only 100 of the inaugural AARC/RSOC challenge coins were produced. The hope is that we will have new coins made each year. Each coin is engraved with a unique serial number. Just 36 coins are left. There will be no more coins made from this initial batch. Future coins will have a slight design change and include the year they represent.

Get your coin now before these are gone forever!

[CLICK HERE TO ORDER YOUR COIN NOW](#) (sorry....all sold out)

Kent Petty

Alaska we need you!

Posted By *Kent Petty* On September 28, 2023 @ 5:54 PM In Events, FT8, HF, POTA



[Several members of the McKinney Amateur Radio Club](#) in McKinney Texas will be traveling north to Oklahoma this weekend to join fellow club members at their campsites to activate park [K-2791-Lake Texoma State Park](#).

We're mostly phone SSB, 20m but we do have a couple of FT8 players. Some will activate Friday evening but things will ramp up Saturday at 9 am central and continue through the day.

AARC Vision - *An inclusive community of engaged, trained, and prepared emergency communication volunteers*

Many of us are hoping to get Alaska marked off our list so if anyone in the beautiful and much bigger state of Alaska is on the radio please look for us.

Thanks, [Geri KI5OEX](#)

Kent Petty

Silent Key – Karen M. Walker, KL7KW

Posted By *Kent Petty* On October 9, 2023 @ 3:04 PM In Obituary, Silent Key

Karen M. Walker
July 27, 1964 – October 4, 2023

It is with intense grief that I inform the membership that Karen Walker, KL7KW, became a Silent Key on October 4, 2023 after a short battle with pancreatic cancer. Karen became interested in radio communications while working I.T. support in Antarctica. Karen spent several seasons “on the ice” including wintering over at the South Pole Station. An AARC highlight was the Field Day when Karen made a voice QSO with an astronaut on the International Space Station. As a professional tour guide she seldom had free time in summer. But when possible she volunteered with the Club at race events, her Yaesu VX-7R handheld at the ready. A 15+ time volunteer at remote Iditarod checkpoints she worked with race communications. She was only 59 at the time of her death. Karen will always be remembered for her intelligence, kindness, love of nature and sweet smile framed by her long wavy brown hair. Karen is survived by her brother, Brian Walker, father Mose Walker, both of Portland, Oregon and her significant-other of 13 years, Mark Sabel, WD6BMJ of Anchorage.



Karen with Mark Sabel, Elderberry Park, 2015

Lara Baker, AL2R – Obituary Posted

Posted By *Kent Petty* On October 12, 2023 @ 10:08 AM In Obituary,Silent Key

Hi all,

As a follow-up, here is a link to Lara's obituary, posted in the Santa Fe New Mexican on September 24, 2023:

<https://www.legacy.com/us/obituaries/santafenewmexican/name/lara-baker-obituary?id=53204543>

73 Lara

Kent Petty

Calling All Amateurs – 60 Meters – PLEASE TAKE ACTION

Posted By *Kent Petty* On October 27, 2023 @ 8:19 AM In ARES,ARRL,FCC Actions,General Info,HF

Please see the following from ARRL Northwestern Division Director Mike Ritz, W7VO regarding the important need for all amateurs to make comments on the FCC's Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (NPRM) Docket Number 23-120. Their proposal would devastate our ability to use 60-meters in a meaningful way, and this band has proven exceptionally useful in our region. PLEASE MAKE COMMENTS to the FCC as described in Mike's message. There is a link to the ARRL's page on the matter with instructions as to how to file. REMEMBER, PLEASE GET THESE IN BY OCTOBER 30.

Here is Mike's message:

Subject: SPECIAL BULLETIN: Help ARRL Save Our 60 Meter Allocation!

Attention: ARRL Northwestern Division Member

We need your assistance, and we need it NOW. We strongly encourage you to assist the ARRL and the entire U.S. Amateur Radio community by submitting comments to the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) before October 30th to save the privileges we have fought to gain on 60 meters. Even if you are not currently active on 60 meters, the proposed reduction in power from 100 watts to an equivalent of less than 10 watts is the most sweeping reduction of HF privileges in decades. If Amateur Radio opposition to this proposed change is weak and the FCC goes through with the change, will a lackluster response from the Amateur Radio community embolden the FCC to remove or modify more HF privileges?

Please read this message in full to understand why your help is needed prior to submitting your comments.

The FCC has issued Notice of Proposed Rulemaking's (NPRM) Docket Number 23-120 which would reduce power on 60 meters from 100 watts ERP (Effective Radiated Power) to the equivalent of 9.5 watts ERP. The NPRM would replace the current five channels (currently each with a 100-watt power limit) with a 15 kHz continuous spectrum from 5351.5 to 5366.5 kHz, but limiting power to the equivalent of 9.5 watts ERP. ARRL is proposing to keep the current five channels AND add the docket's proposed 15 kHz of continuous spectrum, all at a power level of 100 watts ERP.

It is important to note that in 2022 our neighbor, Canada, enacted ARRL's position by keeping the five current channels AND adding the expanded 15 kHz of continuous spectrum, all at 100 watts. ARRL is advocating for the FCC to adopt the identical allocations and power limits which Canada put in place over a year ago.

When the FCC authorized 60-meter access for Amateur Radio operators in July 2003, the Commission cited the positive propagation attributes for emergency communications. Over the past twenty years during hurricanes, Caribbean Amateur Radio stations used 60 meters to relay critical weather and situational reports to U.S. operators. In our own Division, Alaska uses 60 meters for their critical EMCOMM communications. Clearly, 9.5 watts ERP would be woefully inadequate to maintain communications for these purposes.

In the May 2023 ARRL survey, members overwhelmingly pointed to Spectrum Defense as the #1 priority of the League. The ARRL takes this priority seriously. For the maximum impact, the FCC needs to hear from ARRL members across the country to underscore the importance of 60 meters in our densely populated region on the eastern seaboard situated between active hurricane zones and our nation's capital of Washington, DC. The Gulf States where hurricanes have had catastrophic effects on communication systems, and the Pacific Northwest, where the predicted Cascadia Earthquake is a daily threat. Having a consistent band plan with Canada will also ensure harmonious communications throughout most of North America.

PLEASE support the ARRL's filing in this matter.

To learn more about the NPRM and its impact on our 60-meter privileges, please visit <https://www.arrl.org/60-meter-band>. On this webpage you will find the links to file comments with the FCC.

Please do not delay. A substantial response from the Ham community before the October 30 deadline is the only way to forestall the loss of our valued operating privileges. Please urge your fellow Hams to file comments as well. Protection of our Amateur Radio spectrum is our number one priority.

73 de

Mike Ritz W7VO
Northwestern Division Director
w7vo@arrl.org

Mark J. Tharp KB7HDX
Northwestern Division Vice Director
kb7hdx@arrl.org

Kent Petty

FCC Extends Public Comment Period on 60-Meter Band Proposal

Posted By *Kent Petty* On October 31, 2023 @ 7:28 AM In ARES,ARRL,FCC Actions,General Info,HF

The FCC has extended the public comment period on the 60-meter band proposal until 11/28/2023. Please submit your comments!

[Click here to link to our previous post on the topic.](#) ^[1]

[Click here to go directly to the ARRL website with instructions on how to file comments.](#) ^[2]

Kent Petty¹

FCC Provides Useful Tools Regarding License Applications and More

Posted By *Kent Petty* On November 6, 2023 @ 11:11 AM In FCC Actions,License Testing,VEC

We received an e-mail from the FCC this morning regarding a checklist relative to License Renewals and a reminder that they have an "FCC Knowledge Base" as well. To keep things simple, I'm providing the exact text from the email below:

VECS:

In order to provide Amateur operators with as much information as possible, we have created a [Personal Services Renewal Application Checklist](#). This checklist is a preparation guide to help license holders gather the necessary information before they begin the Renewal process, direct them to the proper websites, and provide help articles to common issues some people encounter. It is our hope that this article will help the Amateur community navigate the ULS and CORES systems, to file and pay for their applications.

We are asking that you please provide a link to this information to your customers through your different communication channels, so they are prepared to file their Renewals when the time comes. Also, please feel free to link to [FCC's Knowledge Base](#) from your websites to help the Amateur community find the appropriate FCC resources.

Thank you for your support in this effort.

FCC

I hope to have this up on our License Testing page in the next few days.

73,

Kent Petty, KL5T, Chairman
Anchorage ARC VEC

AREDN Mesh Node Flashing Clinic

Posted By *Kent Petty* On November 8, 2023 @ 4:35 AM In
ARES, Education, EMCOMM, Mesh Networking



We have acquired several pieces of Mikrotik 5 GHz gear we need to configure to use on our Anchorage AREDN Mesh network. "Flashing" these units to install the AREDN firmware is a bit of a process, but in the end, is actually not too difficult.

I expect to complete this task in the next few days, perhaps this Saturday sometime. Are you interested in participating in a Zoom call / presentation on this process?

If so, please drop a note to treasurer@kl7aa.org to let me know.

73,

Kent, KL5T

AREDN Mesh Node Flashing Clinic Follow-up

Posted By *Kent Petty* On November 11, 2023 @ 8:22 PM In
ARES, Education, EMCOMM, Mesh Networking



Due to snowpocolypse, I needed to delay the AREDN Mesh Node Flashing Clinic until tomorrow, Sunday, November 12 at 11:00 Alaska time.

I'll demonstrate flashing a Mikrotik node and a Ubiquiti node. If interested, Please join us. Here is the Zoom link:

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/97405410101?pwd=MGd6c2NCY2FJMENucjJyblJrbDI2dz09>

Meeting ID: 974 0541 0101

Passcode: 645309

See you there.

73,

Kent, KL5T

W1AW/KL7 operating possibilities

Posted By *Richard Tweet KL2AZ* On November 12, 2023 @ 6:31 PM In
Events, VOTA



Greetings,

Your Anchorage Amateur Radio Club will be operating the Volunteers on the Air (VOTA) station W1AW/KL7 from 0000Z on November 15th through 2359Z on November 22. Anyone wishing to operate as a W1AW/KL7 station, please contact Richard.Tweet@kl7aa.org for scheduling. We are looking for 2-hour commitments for operating on Phone, CW, and Digital modes. One important note:

Important: No more than one station can be on any band/mode at the same time. That means only three (3) stations can be on the air from your activation on a single band at a given time (e.g., just one station can be on 20m SSB, or 20m CW, or 20m Digital).

Full operational operating rules are available at <https://www.arrl.org/volunteers-on-the-air>. For anyone interested, I will send the information I have to date.

Let's make this a fun event!

73,

Richard Tweet KL2AZ

AARC President

FCC Removes Symbol Rate Restrictions!

Posted By *Kent Petty* On November 14, 2023 @ 11:54 AM In EMCOMM,FCC Actions,HF,Winlink



SB QST @ ARL \$ARLB031

ARLB031 ARRL Hails FCC Action to Remove Symbol Rate Restrictions

ZCZC AG31

QST de W1AW

ARRL Bulletin 31 ARLB031

From ARRL Headquarters

Newington CT November 14, 2023

To all radio amateurs

SB QST ARL ARLB031

ARLB031 ARRL Hails FCC Action to Remove Symbol Rate Restrictions

The FCC Commissioners unanimously voted to amend the Amateur Radio Service rules to replace the baud rate limit on the Amateur HF bands with a 2.8 kHz bandwidth limit to permit greater flexibility in data communications.

“The Federal Communications Commission today adopted new rules to incentivize innovation and experimentation in the amateur radio bands by removing outdated restrictions and providing licensees with the flexibility to use modern digital emissions,” announced FCC.

The announcement can be found online at, <https://docs.fcc.gov/public/attachments/DOC-398409A1.pdf> .

The new rules can be found online at,

<https://docs.fcc.gov/public/attachments/FCC-23-93A1.pdf> .

“Specifically, we remove limitations on the symbol rate (also known as baud rate) — the rate at which the carrier waveform amplitude, frequency, and/or phase is varied to transmit information —

applicable to data emissions in certain amateur bands,” concluded the FCC Report and Order and Further Notice of Proposed Rulemaking, adopted November 13, 2023. “The amateur radio community can play a vital role in emergency response communications but is often unnecessarily hindered by the baud rate limitations in the rules.”

Consistent with ARRL’s request, the amended rules will replace the current HF restrictions with a 2.8 kHz bandwidth limit. “We agree with ARRL that a 2.8 kilohertz bandwidth limitation will allow for additional emissions currently prohibited under the baud rate limitations while providing sufficient protections in the shared RTTY/data subbands,” concluded the FCC Report and Order.

ARRL President Rick Roderick, K5UR, hailed the FCC’s action to remove the symbol rate restrictions. Roderick stated that “this action will measurably facilitate the public service communications that amateurs step up to provide, especially at times of natural disasters and other emergencies such as during the hurricane season.

Digital technology continues to evolve, and removing the outmoded data restrictions restores the incentive for radio amateurs to continue to experiment and develop more spectrum-efficient protocols and methods while the 2.8 kHz bandwidth limit will help protect the shared nature of our bands. We thank Congresswoman [Debbie] Lesko (AZ-08) for her efforts on behalf of all Amateurs to get these restrictions removed.”

In a Further Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (FNPRM), the FCC proposes to eliminate similar restrictions where they apply in other bands.

“We propose to remove the baud rate limitation in the 2200 meter band and 630 meter band – and in the very high frequency (VHF) bands and the ultra-high frequency (UHF) bands.

“Additionally, we seek comment on the appropriate bandwidth limitation for the 2200 meter band, the 630 meter band, and the VHF/UHF bands.”

ARRL has previously expressed its support for eliminating the symbol rate limits in favor of bandwidth limits where they apply on the VHF and UHF bands but suggested that the bandwidth limits themselves be reviewed in light of today’s technology and tomorrow’s possibilities. Similarly, when eliminating the baud limits on the

2200 and 630-meter bands, consideration should be given to what, if any, bandwidth limits are appropriate.

The FCC will announce a period for public comment on the additional proposed changes based upon publication of the FNPRM in the Federal Register.

NNNN

/EX

UPDATE – Sign Up to Operate as W1AW/KL7 VOTA

Posted By *Kent Petty* On November 15, 2023 @ 8:29 AM In
ARRL,Contesting,HF,VOTA



Greetings,

Your Anchorage Amateur Radio Club will be operating the Volunteers on the Air (VOTA) station W1AW/KL7 from 0000Z on November 15th through 2359Z on November 22. Anyone wishing to operate as a W1AW/KL7 station, either from the RSOC or from your home station, please review the operating log, identify the date/time/mode slots available (note the slot number on the operating log), then submit your request via the form available from the homepage of the website (you will need that slot number). For convenience, the two links are here:

[View the operating log – CLICK HERE¹](#)

[Submit your Operating Request – CLICK HERE](#)

Important: To participate from your home station, you **MUST** be a current ARRL member.

More Important Info: No more than one station can be on any band/mode at the same time. That means only three (3) stations can be on the air from your activation on a single band at a given time (e.g., just one station can be on 20m SSB, or 20m CW, or 20m Digital).

Full operational operating rules are available at <https://www.arrl.org/volunteers-on-the-air>. For anyone interested, I will send the information I have to date.

Let's make this a fun event!

73,

Richard Tweet KL2AZ

AARC President

Free Technician License Preparation Class!

Posted By *Kent Petty* On November 20, 2023 @ 9:07 AM In Education,License
Testing,VEC

As a Christmas present to aspiring amateur radio operators, one of our Volunteer Examiners, Scott Rosenfeld, N7JI, is presenting a free Technician license exam preparation course from December 26-29. There will be a SPECIAL license examination session held on December 30 for participants of that class. The link to register for the examination will be provided by Scott to class participants.

See the following from Scott:

Free ONLINE Ham Radio License Class!

Dec. 26-29, 2023 (Tuesday-Thursday + optional Friday exam)

9 a.m. – 1 p.m. PST

Taught via Zoom

Scott Rosenfeld, N7JI, ARRL Registered Instructor

Please provide name, e-mail, and phone number.

Phone: 541-221-2475

Email: ars.n7ji@gmail.com

See the flyer: [Ham class announcement 2023-12-26 flyer](#)

THANK YOU SCOTT!

Fundraising Appeal – Giving Tuesday

Posted By *Kent Petty* On November 28, 2023 @ 3:43 PM In
Donations, Fundraising

Dear AARC Members and Supporters,

This Giving Tuesday, we're reaching out to our incredible community to support the [Anchorage Amateur Radio Club \(AARC\)](#) ^[1] and our pivotal project, the Radio Science and Operations Center (RSOC). Since 1947, AARC has been a central hub for amateur radio enthusiasts and public service, with over 280 dedicated members.

Your Impact on the RSOC

Your contributions are vital for:

- **Maintaining and Enhancing the RSOC:** Your support helps us sustain and improve this critical facility, fostering innovation and learning in radio science.
- **Public Service and Safety:** The RSOC plays a key role in our commitment to public service and safety, offering auxiliary communications and training to various groups and civil authorities.
- **Community and Educational Outreach:** Through the RSOC, we engage in numerous community activities and educational programs, spreading the knowledge and joy of amateur radio.

Your Donation is Tax-Deductible

As a 501(c)(3) charitable organization, your donation to AARC is tax-deductible. This provides you with tax benefits while supporting a cause that impacts the community significantly.

How to Donate

Please [visit our website](#) to make your tax-deductible donation. Every contribution, no matter the size, makes a difference.

Join and Participate

Consider joining our monthly meetings and weekly events like the [South Central Simplex Net](#) to stay engaged with the AARC community.

Together, Let's Support AARC and the RSOC

Your support on Giving Tuesday will empower us to continue our legacy in amateur radio and public service. We are grateful for your generosity and commitment.

Warm regards,

Anchorage Amateur Radio Club / Radio Science and Operations Center

December Membership Meeting / Get Together

Posted By *Kent Petty* On December 2, 2023 @ 9:39 PM In
Events, Membership, Membership Meetings

**Anchorage Amateur Radio Club
December Membership Meeting 12/7/2023 7pm
6721 Raspberry Road (KL7AA Radio Science and Operations Center)**

I hope everyone had a good Thanksgiving holiday and are looking forward to the Christmas season!!

Please plan on attending the December Membership meeting! At this time, no business is scheduled which will allow for socializing and facility tours for those who haven't been to the facility. Snacks will be available, and rumor has it that there will be a few door prizes drawn for those attending in person.

As usual, the meeting will be available via Zoom (see [KL7AA.org/events](https://www.kl7aa.org/events) for the link to the meeting).

I hope to see you there!

73,

Richard Tweet KL2AZ
AARC President

W1AW/KL7 VOTA Activation

Posted By *Kent Petty* On December 2, 2023 @ 9:53 PM In ARRL,DX,Events,HF



KL7AA activated the W1AW/KL7 Portable VOTA Activation from November 15th to the 22nd. 3225 contacts were credited to the activation using CW, Voice, and Digital modes. Many of the contacts were made at the KL7AA Radio Science and Operating Center (RSOC) club station along with individuals operating from other locations. Thanks to Corliss Kimmel AL1G, Steve Bloom KL7SB, Bill Hunstein KL7TC, TJ Sheffield KL7TS, Kent Petty KL5T and Keith Clark KL7MM for making this activation a great success.

Operations from the RSOC were initially questionable with the rain, snow, and winds just prior to the event. Ice loading caused a MAXGAIN mast to fail which dropped 3 of the club's wire antennas. Many thanks to TJ Sheffield KL7TS for making repairs to the installation allowing for all antennas at the RSOC to be operational during the event.

The 2023 W1AW/xx activations are held 2 times per State with Steve Bloom KL7SB activating W1AW/KL7 first in May prior to our November activation.

Comments on the Alaska activation from the ARRL included:

*"A big **THANK YOU** to you and your fellow club members for taking on W1AW/KL7 for VOTA. I sincerely appreciate it!"*

"... THANK YOU Richard and all that played along.

Great effort.

Just about every time I checked the cluster your ops were on including Sweeps."

Again, thanks to all who participated during this weeklong event.

73,

Richard Tweet KL2AZ, President

DireWolf Software TNC – Call for Assistance

Posted By *Kent Petty* On December 3, 2023 @ 2:42 PM In ARES,EMCOMM

Hi all. We are working on a very important emergency communication project and have reached a bit of a stumbling block trying to get Direwolf to work as a software TNC for packet/Winlink operations on VHF/UHF. We are working on this on a Raspberry Pi.

If you are familiar with Direwolf and are willing to assist, we would surely appreciate your assistance. Time is of the essence!

Please contact treasurer@kl7aa.org if you can help. We can open an AnyDesk remote desktop connection to help do this.

Thanks and 73,

Kent, KL5T

915 MHz – LoRa Meshtastic Patrons Wanted!

Posted By *Kent Petty* On December 6, 2023 @ 1:16 PM In LoRa



Anchorage! If you have one of these LoRa nodes and are willing to help us with this project, join the network with the following settings and channel information:

LoRa Configuration

Region: United States

Presets: Long range-Fast

LoRa Channel Number: 20

Channel Information

Name: KL7AA

Passcode: leave this empty

This will allow you to get on the KL7AA chat channel. If you set this channel as your “primary” channel, then you can also send location and telemetry information. If you set this channel as your “secondary” channel, no GPS information will be exchanged. Basically, this allows you to choose if you want other users to be able to see your location. Alternatively, you could simply turn the GPS off if you set this as your primary channel (again, obviously, no location info would be transmitted). That said, given that we are developing this network, it would be cool to see what kind of coverages we are getting, hence having your location info would be helpful.

There are different flavors of LoRa, including LoRaWAN and Meshtastic. Our system is using the Meshtastic protocol. We have one node located at 1,450 feet in elevation on the South Anchorage Hillside which appears to provide excellent coverage across most of Anchorage. There are a few other nodes expected to be online soon.

To learn more about Meshtastic and LoRa, [visit the Meshtastic website](#).

Dennis Jones, AL5K is spearheading this project. You can reach out to him at: AL5K.rado@gmail.com

FYI – Dennis’s nodes are called “Apex” and “Rover”. You might see them on the network. Feel free to Direct Message (DM) Dennis through those nodes or on the “KL7AA” channel itself.

One note of caution: Do NOT run a “Range Test” on the KL7AA channel. If the KL7AA channel is set as your Primary Channel, the Range Test will “SPAM” the channel. This would be bad form 😊

A bit more info.....

There is quite a bit of crossover between “Licensed” and “Unlicensed” service with this system. Unless you have some reason to configure your node as a “Licensed Operator” (for instance, running an amplifier), then there is basically no reason to configure your node as “Licensed Operator”. You can find more information on the Meshtastic website about this setting.

See you on 33 cm band!

Release of 2024-2028 Extra Class Question Pool

Posted By *Kent Petty* On December 7, 2023 @ 12:20 PM In License Testing, VEC



The Question Pool Committee has released the 2024-2028 Extra Class Question Pool, and it is available on the NCVEC website at <https://www.ncvec.org/index.php/2024-2028-extra-class-question-pool-release>. It effective as of July 1, 2024.

Roland and Maria again want to thank Ward Silver, N0AX; Gordon West, WB6NOA; Eric Nichols, KL7AJ; Frank Donovan, W3LPL; ARRL editor Mark Derks, KC1RVQ; and RF safety committee chairman Greg Lapin, N9GL, for their subject matter contributions in their area or areas of expertise.

The final statistics on the new Extra pool are:

Questions eliminated: 101

New questions: 82

Questions modified: 357

Question total 603 for the new pool vs. 622 for the previous pool (net decrease of 19 questions).

73,

Rol Anders, K3RA
Chair, NCVEC Question Pool Committee

Club Challenge Coins – Almost Gone!

Posted By *Kent Petty* On December 8, 2023 @ 11:48 AM In Club
Products,Fundraising



There are just 7 inaugural club challenge coins left. There were just 100 of these coins made. There will NOT be any more of this inaugural run made. The mold will be broken!

Get yours quick by going here: <https://kl7aa.org/product/aarc-challenge-coin/>

These coins could make cool stocking stuffers.

While we are at it, there are some cool AARC/RSOC branded wares on our CafePress store. I particularly like the hoodies...very well made. Maybe some more Christmas presents??? Here's a link: <https://www.cafepress.com/aarcrcsoc>

Happy holidays!

Inaugural Run of Club Challenge Coins – SOLD OUT!

Posted By *Kent Petty* On December 9, 2023 @ 12:25 PM In Club
Products,Fundraising



Hi all,

The complete batch of 100 inaugural club challenge coins has been sold out! Only Coin #001 and #100 are still in hand, and they will be placed on permanent display at the RSOC.

We hope to create a new set of coins each year going forward, again, 100 coins each year, but a unique coin for each year. Effectively, this would be an annual sort of fundraiser for the club. All future coin runs will have the year of their run on the coin. Likely, the rear of the coin will remain unchanged but the front of the coin, in addition to having the year indicated, will have a different color scheme and maybe some other differences in the design elements. If you'd like to be involved in designing the front of the next coin, please contact treasurer@kl7aa.org. We hope to get this moving right away.

While we are at it, there are some cool AARC/RSOC branded wares on our Cafepress store. I particularly like the hoodies...very well made. Maybe some more Christmas presents??? Here's a link: <https://www.cafepress.com/aarcsoc>

Happy holidays!

AREDN Mesh Network “MeshChat” Logins Added to South Central Simplex Net

Posted By *Kent Petty* On December 13, 2023 @ 5:39 PM In EMCOMM,Mesh Networking,Nets,RSOC Operations



There will be a new addition to the South Central Simplex Net tonight. Remember, the net starts at 1900L on 146.52 FM. Check-ins will be taken on a function called “MeshChat” over our club’s AREDN Mesh Network.

If you aren't familiar with the Mesh network, it covers most of Anchorage with two critical hillside nodes and a node on Site Summit. Providence Alaska Medical Center, Alaska Native Medical Center, the RSOC, the Alaska Search and Rescue Association (ASARA), the Anchorage Senior Center, the Radio Science and Operations Center (RSOC), and the Elmendorf Amateur Radio Society's (EARS) clubhouse on JBER are a few sites on the Mesh. We even have a station linked in Yentna via a 49-mile shot to Site Summit. Anyone can get onto the Mesh if they can get “line-of-sight” to any other Mesh node.



If you happen to be able to get onto the Mesh, simply access your local node with a browser at a URL of “localnode:8080”. When your node responds, select “Mesh Status”. When the list of nodes appears, look for “AKMeshChat”. Click on any of the listings for AKMeshChat the log in with your callsign at the prompt. The rest should be self-explanatory.

To learn what type of gear you might need to get onto the mesh network, you can check out arednmesh.org, or search our website for info. To speak with someone about the mesh, send an email to mesh@kl7aa.org.

Please note: The Anchorage AREDN Mesh Network is a very, very important part of our emergency communications infrastructure. It is basically a wide area network that performs many tasks for us.

See you on the Mesh.

73,

Kent Petty, KL5T
Mesh Network Coordinator

New Member, KM4GHR, Bio / Assistance Request

Posted By *Kent Petty* On December 16, 2023 @ 1:24 PM In
Equipment, Membership

73 everyone!

My name is Kevin Kelson (KM4GHR). I am a new member of RSOC. I've been a Tech since 2014 in the lower 48, however, I had to pause any ham operations since being in Alaska for the last 7 years due to working/ living in the North Slope. I am law enforcement as well as a senior enlisted service member of the Army Reserves in JBER.

I've recently moved my family and I to Anchorage and could not wait to get back into supporting net operations, learning more, and helping where I can.

All that being said, when I left the lower 48 7 years ago, I had to leave all my gear behind and now have nothing. I currently have a no-name brand handheld that might as well have been bought at Toys R Us and starting to fail.

I do have a KENWOOD 74A on its way, as well and Kenwood D710 mobile with hood mount and mobile antenna, all of which should be here next week. I am reaching out in hopes there is somebody savvy with Kenwood programming to can show me what I need and help to program, as well as somebody savvy with installing mobiles in vehicles to assist me. Lastly and most importantly, I am seeking a Kenwood handheld that somebody could loan out or allow me to purchase. Any help would be amazing.... I don't have any base unit set up as well at my house either.

I am a rotation officer up north and am currently off duty in anchorage until the 20th.

Feel free to give me a call or text anytime and I'll be happy to come to you.

Thank you in advance, even for just support and advice.

My number is 907-830-5404

QST QST QST – In Person License Exam Session, Anchorage, January 10, 2024

Posted By *Kent Petty* On December 18, 2023 @ 3:10 AM In License Testing, VEC



If you want to want to upgrade your license by taking your exam in person in Anchorage, or, if you know a friend who has been studying for their license and wants to get their ticket or upgrade their existing license and take their exam in person, we'll be holding an in-person license exam session on Wednesday, January 10, 2023 at 6 PM Alaska Time.

Where: Radio Science and Operations Center
6721 Raspberry Road
Anchorage, Alaska

PLEASE BRING: A simple calculator (if you need it for the exam)
PLEASE BRING: Photo ID

You'll need to register for the session here. Please follow all instructions. Here is the link:
<https://kl7aa.org/in-person-testing/>

Also, please remember that we offer remote testing twice daily, Monday through Saturday. Here is the link for our remote testing page:
<https://kl7aa.org/vec/remote-testing/>

In-person testing will be a great way for you to visit our exceptionally awesome Radio Science and Operations Center!

Hope to see you register!

73,

Kent Petty, KL5T, Chairman
Anchorage ARC VEC

QST QST QST – In Person License Exam Session, Kenai, January 13, 2024

Posted By *Kent Petty* On December 21, 2023 @ 10:55 AM In License Testing, VEC



If you want to want to upgrade your license by taking your exam in person in the Kenai/Soldotna area, or, if you know a friend who has been studying for their license and wants to get their ticket or upgrade their existing license and take their exam in person, we'll be holding an in-person license exam session on Saturday, January 13, 2023 at 10 AM Alaska Time.

Where: Residence of AL7GG
34763 Salutation Ave, Sterling, AK 99672, USA

PLEASE BRING: A simple calculator (if you need it for the exam)
PLEASE BRING: Photo ID

You'll need to register for the session here. Please follow all instructions.
[CLICK HERE TO START REGISTRATION](#)

Also, please remember that we offer remote testing twice daily, Monday through Saturday. Here is the link for our remote testing page:
<https://kl7aa.org/vec/remote-testing/>

In-person testing is a great way to meet local hams and to learn about local activities.

Hope to see you register!

73,

Kent Petty, KL5T, Chairman
Anchorage ARC VEC

Experiments in 915 MHz Mesh Networking – Meshtastic

Posted By *Kent Petty* On December 31, 2023 @ 8:38 PM In LoRa, RF Experiments

From Dennis Jones, AL5K

Over the past several weeks, some members of the Anchorage Amateur Radio Club have begun to experiment with text-based mesh networking using the Meshtastic protocol and low-cost portable mesh nodes. At the current time, we have about 7 nodes active around Anchorage and would like to welcome anyone with an interest to jump in and help us expand the network. The Meshtastic network consists of small independently hosted devices that will self-organize into an ad-hoc communications network that can interface via smartphone (Bluetooth or computer) to provide grid-independent text communications and optional location information. Due to the self-configuring nature of a mesh network, the more nodes that exist, the more robust the network can be. This mode of communication uses the LoRa Chirp Spread Spectrum protocol in the 915 MHz range (33cm amateur band) to provide long-range, low power, low bandwidth communication through the network. This service may be used as both licensed or unlicensed due to a lot of crossover in that part of the radio spectrum; so, unless one needs to use high power or some other parameter that would push them into needing the licensed portion of the service, you can even get started with this before acquiring your radio license!

Currently, we have a couple of nodes high up on the south Anchorage hillside and several other nodes around town. As more people join the network and host their own nodes, it will be interesting to flesh out the possibilities of this type of mesh network in south-central Alaska. Due to their self-relaying nature, the potential exists to create a fairly robust local system and it will be interesting to experiment with what this technology can offer.

If you are interested in checking this out for yourself I will list some resources, both for the hardware and for personal research. The cost to get involved and start experimenting is reasonable and there are a lot of resources available to help you get started. I will also list the minimum device settings that you'll need to set up to see the existing network after acquiring your hardware.

Meshtastic website:

<https://meshtastic.org/> ^[1]

Additional info:

<https://meshtastic.letstalkthis.com/> ^[2]

KI6NAZ also has a good introduction video to Meshtastic/LoRa:

<https://youtu.be/DumgHz56lji> ^[3]

One source for hardware (AliExpress also supplies compatible boards etc.):

<https://store.rokland.com/pages/meshtastic-hardware-rak-lilygo> ^[4] **I would recommend purchasing one of the boards with the ESP32 chip as this provides some potential added functionality

These are the necessary device settings for interfacing with the existing KL7AA mesh chat channel:
In your Meshtastic app under "settings"

LoRa Config:

Region: United States

Presets: Long Range – Fast (Default)

LoRa Channel Number: 20

Channels:

Name: KL7AA

Key Size: Default

This should allow you to interact with the existing network group chat channel and see other nodes that your device can hear directly with the same settings. If you have any questions please feel free to reach out to myself (Dennis – AL5K, AL5K.radio@gmail.com), or Kent Petty.

Recurring Reports

RSOC Operations

A formal report is not submitted for this issue. That said, we are at the RSOC every Wednesday morning from 0700 until at least 1100 for SHARES, then from 1800 – 2100 for the South Central Simplex Net. We are also typically there on Saturdays from 0900 – 1200. We are there at other unscheduled time.

AARC Endowment

The Anchorage Amateur Radio Club has established an endowment to provide for the future financial stability of the Club.

The goal is to be able to use interest from this account in a similar fashion to the Alaska Permanent Fund by only using part of the interest and keeping some of the interest in the fund for inflation proofing.

Being a 501(c)3 corporation any donations to this account are tax deductible.

There are several ways to donate. A straight cash donation, a qualified charitable donation from a retirement account or a legacy donation from an estate.

The structure is to grow this account for several years before using any of the funds so please donate soon and donate often.

Thank You!

Finance Committee

Southcentral Simplex Net (SCSN)

Net Manager: TJ Sheffield, KL7TS

The South-Central Simplex Net (SCSN) will be changing our Order of Operations in 2024.

Since 2020 the net has been organized primarily by frequency, however in 2024, the net will be organized primarily by mode.

Based on metrics going back to June, 2020 the radio most likely to check into the SCSN is an FM dual-bander, either a mobile radio, or a hand-held. Some of these dual-banders are actually tri-banders, with 220 MHz added, often as a low-power transmitter.

Accordingly, the SCSN will begin 2024 by acknowledging the most popular band / mode: VHF FM, followed by UHF FM, then 223.5 MHz FM.

This will enable some operators to check-in sequentially, on two, or possibly three bands, then free-up the rest of their evening while other operators pursue the more exotic frequencies and modes.

Please refer to the SCSN order of operations for the 2024 band / mode lineup.

TJ Sheffield, KL7TS

Net Manager

South Central Simplex Net

SCSN - 2024
Frequency
146.52 FM
446.0 FM
223.5 FM
144.2 USB
432.2 USB
50.125 USB
52.525 FM
28.4 USB
29.075 AM
29.6 FM
27.035 CB
145.67 D-Star
441.0 D-Star
1294.3 D-Star
1296.1 USB
1294.5 FM
927.5 FM
PACKET
APRS

Heavy Rolling Stock

This area reserved for Heavy Rolling Stock Manager, Keith Clark, KL7MM

2023.12.20

AARC Vision - *An inclusive community of engaged, trained, and prepared emergency communication volunteers*

The MTV is going to be moved from bay 1 to bay 2 to accommodate a safety margin around the electrical boxes. Something required to meet electrical code. This should be done before next summer's projects begin.

The vehicles and generators are fueled and the fuel has been conditioned for winter temperatures.

The only other thing to report this month is that replacement of the tires on the white trailer is necessary. They are in such bad shape that it would be unsafe to move it any distance. This should be completed before the snow flies. These tires will be replaced in the Spring or Summer of 2024.

Battery Lab

Need a battery you have load tested? Click here: ["Request Battery Analysis"](#)

Raven Electric Battery Donation to the RSOC

Written by Dave Webb N9AIG
December 23, 2023

The RSOC received a very generous donation of 17 batteries from Raven Electric this past fall. As usual, I tested each battery using a West Mountain Radio CBA battery discharge tester. (I recently upgraded my CBA IV to a CBA V). Out of the 17 donated batteries, 16 tested suitable for continued service.

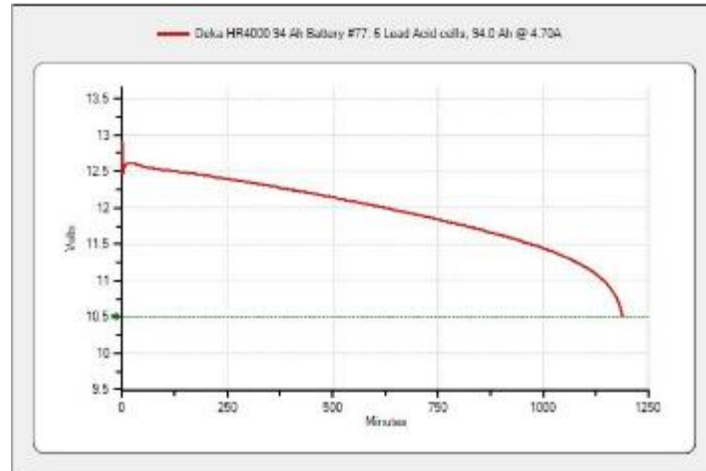
The Deka HR4000 Batteries are nominally rated 94 Ah (20-hour discharge test) and the batteries tested from 84 Ah to 97 Ah.

The RSOC was in need of a set of batteries for the North operating station for everyday and emergency use. The plan going forward is to have three battery banks of four batteries each. Each battery bank will have its own remote metering system and battery charger. Battery boosters may be required too.

Currently, the North operating station has 120 VAC to 12 VDC power supplies that are connected to UPS units. This arrangement is suitable for short power outages, but a prolonged blackout will deplete the battery banks that are connected to the UPS units pretty quickly. Going forward, the UPS units will only feed computers and the transceivers will be powered by one of the battery banks.

As you can see from the battery manufacturers specification sheet, the batteries are capable of very high rates of discharge. Because of this, the design of the battery banks will need to have the proper fault protection.

Here's a sample test curve from the CBA V for battery #77:



TESTED CAPACITY: 93.083 AH (DISCHARGE RATE: 4.70 A)

Here are the specifications from East Penn Manufacturing Company:

Deka® High Rate

HR4000

■ **Exclusive IPF® technology optimizes power capacity, cell consistency, and long-term reliability**

- Advanced AGM technology for superior high-rate power
- Puncture resistant micro-porous glass mat separators extend life
- Reinforced case resists bulging and meets safety requirements (UL 94 V-0)
- Case & cover heat sealed and 100% tested to prevent leaks
- Epoxy-sealed posts eliminate leaks
- Flame arresting, low-pressure, self-sealing valves are 100% factory tested
- Computer-aided design and manufacturing control processes and standards to ensure quality products
- All batteries meet or exceed IEEE recommended practices
- Battery design and construction meet UL recognition requirements
- Plate thickness optimized for long life
- Guaranteed 100% initial string capacity when tested in accordance with IEEE 1188



SPECIFICATIONS

Nominal Voltage: 12-Volts

Rating: 420 Watts/Cell @ 15 min. rate to 1.67 V.P.C.

Positive Plate: >98% Pure lead with tin-calcium alloy

Negative Plate: Pure lead, calcium alloy

Post Seal: Epoxy-sealed

Terminal: Top access, 1/4" - 20 threaded insert

Case/Cover: Flame-retardant, polypropylene - UL 94 V-0>28% L.O.I.

Safety Vent: Low positive pressure, self-sealing w/ flame arrestor

Float Voltage: 2.25 V.P.C. ± 0.01 V.P.C. @ 77°F (25°C)

Design life: 10 years in float applications @ 77°F (25°C)

Dimensions: Length - 12.93" (328.4 mm)

Width - 6.84" (173.7 mm)

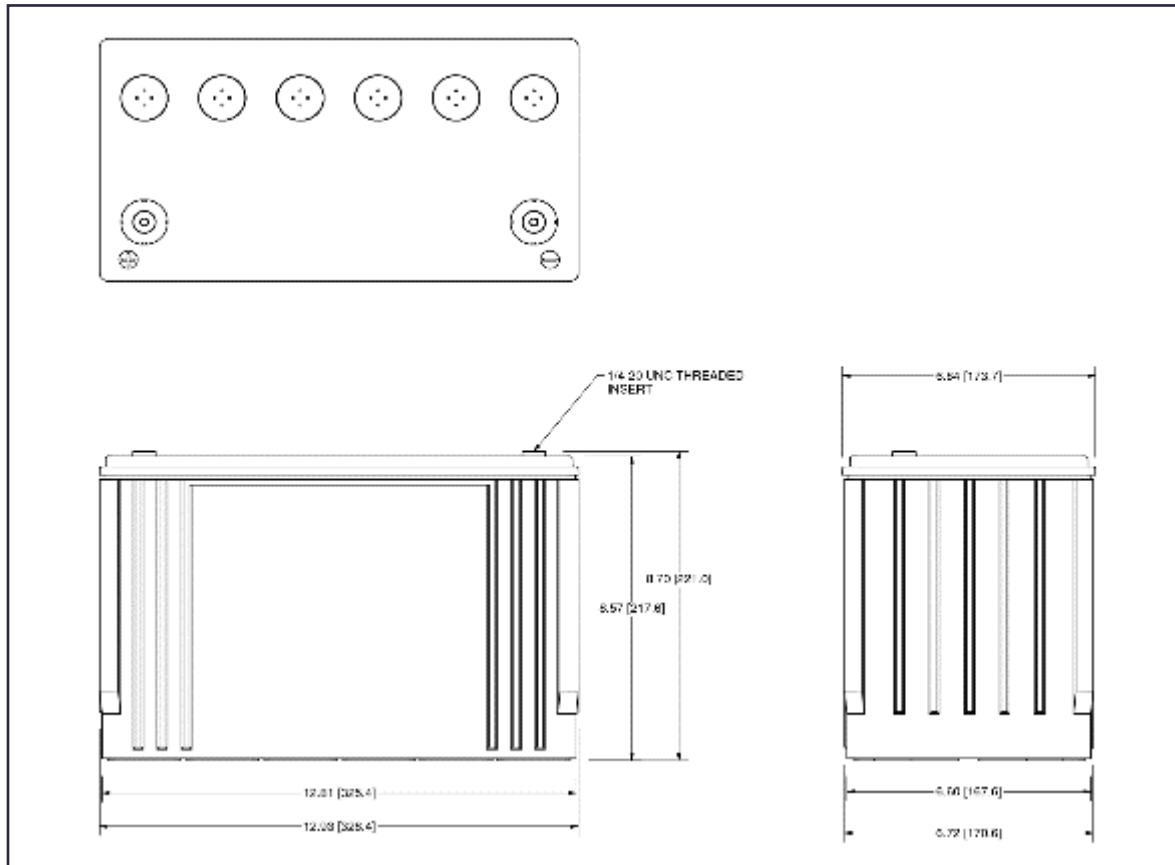
Height - 8.70" (221 mm)

Weight: 81 lbs. (37 kg)

DISCHARGE RATINGS IN WATTS PER CELL @ 77°F (25°C)¹

Volts per Cell (V.P.C.)	1 MIN.	5 MIN.	10 MIN.	15 MIN.	20 MIN.	30 MIN.	40 MIN.	50 MIN.	60 MIN.
1.60	1405	832	554	428	350	257	204	168	145
1.63	1333	809	550	426	348	256	203	168	144
1.65	1279	795	546	423	346	255	203	167	144
1.67	1227	780	541	420	344	254	202	167	143
1.70	1125	750	532	417	342	252	201	166	143
1.75	1027	705	506	404	335	249	198	163	140

¹Subject to change without notice.



LoRa System

This area reserved for LoRa System Manager, Matt Ostrander, KL4QH

HF APRS Robust Packet Gateway

This area reserved for Robust Packet Gateway Manger, Kevin Opalka, KL1V

Club Repeaters

The club owns and operates 6 voice repeaters, including 5 analogue and 1 digital voice repeater. Following is their info and status from south to north:

2-Meters – “Glen Alps” repeater site

- Location: Below Flat Top Mountain, just above the Flat Top trail parking area.
- Mode: Analogue FM
- Callsign: KL7AA
- Transmit Freq: 146.94 MHz
- Receive Freq: 146.34 MHz
- Tone: 103.5 Hz
- Status: Fully Operational

220 / 1.25 - Meters – “Hillside South” site

- Location: Our Hillside South side above Upper O’Malley.
- Mode: Analogue FM
- Callsign: KL7AA
- Transmit Freq: 224.94 MHz
- Receive Freq: 223.34 MHz
- Tone: 100.5 (note – the repeater also transmits a CTCSS tone of 123.0 on its output to help those who may have local interference.
- Status: Fully Operational

440 / 70-Centimeters – “Glen Alps” repeater site

- Location: Below Flat Top Mountain, just above the Flat Top trail parking area.
- Mode: Analogue FM
- Callsign: KL7AA
- Transmit Freq: 444.70 MHz
- Receive Freq: 449.70 MHz
- Tone: 103.5 Hz
- Status: Operational but degraded due to use of an alternate antenna system.

440 / 70 Centimeters – “Hillside South” repeater site

- Location: On the south Anchorage hillside to the north of Flat Top Mountain.
- Mode: Digital FM - DMR and DStar
- Callsign: KL7AA
- Transmit Freq: 444.20 MHz
- Receive Freq: 449.20 MHz
- DMR Info:
 - Color Code: 1
 - Timeslot 1 (TS1): Open for any Brandmeister (BM) dynamic talk group
 - Timeslot 2 (TS2): Static talkgroups are Alaska Statewide (3102) and Anchorage (311181) full time. Please do NOT activate any other talk groups on TS2.
- DStar info:
 - RPT1: KL7AA B

- RPT 2: KL7AA G
- Not linked to any reflector by default. Access to all reflectors and XLX modules is permitted.
- Status: Fully operational

2-Meters – “Grubstake” repeater site

- Location: Hatcher Pass
- Mode: Analogue FM
- Callsign: WL7CVG
- Transmit Freq: 147.33 MHz
- Receive Freq: 147.93 MHz
- Tone: 103.5 Hz
- Features: Cross-linked with the 443.9/448.9 repeater
- Status: Operational but degraded. We are awaiting transport to the site to troubleshoot/

440 / 70 Centimeters – “Grubstake” repeater site

- Location: Hatcher Pass
- Mode: Analogue FM
- Callsign: WL7CVG
- Transmit Freq: 443.90 MHz
- Receive Freq: 448.90 MHz
- Tone: 103.5 Hz
- Features: Cross-linked with the 147.33/147.93 repeater
- Status: Operational.

Grubstake Repeaters Fund

Funded through date: @ October 1, 2023

Donate to the Grubstake Repeater Fund: <https://kl7aa.org/product/grubstake/>

AARC currently funds the Grubstake wide-area repeaters, which provide coverage across the Matanuska-Susitna Valley and into Anchorage.

Frequency	Tone	Callsign	Features
147.33+	103.5	WL7CVG	Cross-banded to 443.900
443.90+	103.5	WL7CVG	Cross-banded to 147.33

As many of our members may know, these repeaters serve a very, very wide area. From far north in the Mat-Su Valley, to the Anchorage bowl, and even to the Kenai Peninsula, they serve us well. They are important for general ham service, but more importantly, they play a critical role from an emergency communications perspective. The weekly ARES net is even held on 147.33/83 repeater. If the repeaters are “turned off”, there’s no guarantee that they will be, or even can be, turned back on.

We ask for your support to keep the repeaters alive. We need on average about \$2,300 per year to operate these repeater systems (site rent is \$150 per month). So, if you believe these repeaters should be funded and kept alive, we ask you to contribute to help the effort. We also urge you to contact your friends and neighbors, hams and non-hams alike to help.



If sufficient funds are not available, the Grubstake wide-area repeaters will be shut down due to financial constraints. In addition to monthly rental charges, there is a premium charge for getting to the repeater site by helicopter when things go wrong or simply for annual inspection and maintenance.

A small group of club members has funded the purchase of a NEW 2-meter repeater to install at Grubstake. The repeater is configured and ready for installation. We are waiting for notification from the site owner that they will be traveling to the site so that we can accompany and swap out the equipment.

In the past, the AARC was allowed to visit the Grubstake site unescorted, but the new owner now mandates that each site visit will be accompanied by an owner representative.

This means one less seat on the charter, and additional expenses for the owner representative’s time.

The current balance of this fund is in the negative at -\$146.64.

Other Area Repeaters

Following is information regarding other repeaters in the area:

Frequency	Shift	Tone	Callsign	Location
146.67 MHz	- 600 kHz	103.5	KL7AIR	Elmendorf AFB
146.85 MHz	- 600 kHz	103.5	KL7JFU	Mat-Su
146.79 MHz	- 600 kHz	100.0	KL4RCS	Mat-su
147.30 MHz	+ 600 kHz	141.3	KL7ION	Anchorage
443.80 MHz	+ 5 MHz	DMR TG 3102 TS 1 CC 1	KL7JFU	Wasilla

AARC Mesh Network



Site Summit MESH Node Overlooking Anchorage

Our ARDN Mesh network continues to function exceptionally. However, we do have a node down at the former Fire Station 2 at Anchorage Int'l Airport. Replacement equipment is in hand, is programmed, and simply needs to be installed.

We have a good supply of 5.8 GHz gear ready to install to help add redundancy and access to users on this network.

Other than that, the Mesh continues to serve our Winlink RMS stations, our DMR repeater, our APRS I-Gate, and our VOIP telephone network, and our MeshChat/File server.

We urge you to visit the AREDN website at www.arednmesh.org to learn more.

DMR / DStar Repeater

The Anchorage ARC operates a DMR repeater located on the South Anchorage hillside. Actually, the repeater will ALSO operate on DStar. Here are the particulars:

Repeater Receive Frequency: 444.20 MHz

Repeater Transmit Frequency: 444.90 MHz

DMR Info:

Color Code: 1

Timeslot 1: Open for any Brandmeister dynamic talk group

Timeslot 2: Alaska Statewide (TG 3102) and Anchorage (TG 311181) full time. Please do not activate any other talk groups on Timeslot 2

DStar Info:

RPT1: KL7AA B

RPT 2: KL7AA G

Not linked to any reflector by default. Access to all reflectors and XLX modules is permitted

And here is an estimated coverage map for the repeater: If you are interested in DMR gear, CQ Radios offers excellent deals on AnyTone radios as well as excellent hotspots. The AARC is an Affiliate Partner with CQ Radios. Use our discount code of "AARC10" at checkout to get a 10% discount. This will also benefit the club! Here is their main page: <https://cqradios.com/>



AARC Frequency Utilization Plan (FUP)

Many members, especially new members to the area, often ask about frequency usage here in Anchorage. They are typically most interested 2-meters and 440 MHz FM. The club has been using and updating a Frequency Utilization Plan, or "FUP", for quite some time to help us

AARC Vision - An inclusive community of engaged, trained, and prepared emergency communication volunteers

standardize operations and even memory assignments on our radios. This plan is based on the Southeast Repeater Association (SERA) band plans.

Our current FUP for 2-meters and 440 MHz is identified as "FUP 0" and is available here as an Excel file and as a PDF (see the links below). Please note that in no way or form are we suggesting that this setup **MUST** be used by anyone; it is simply a guide we follow as a club (especially for local EMCOMM work) and have found it useful to help keep things organized in our area. If there are obvious errors noted, please let us know.

Current 2-Meter / 440 MHz FUP

[Excel Format](#)

[PDF Format](#)

APRS Digipeater / Gateway



The AARC, EARS, and MARA all support [APRS](#) in our local area. The AARC operates an APRS Digipeater / I-Gate at our Hillside South site (KL7QN's residence) which is linked to the internet via our MESH network. EARS operates a Digi / I-Gate from their club station on Elmendorf AFB, and MARA operates a Digi in the Valley. As with all APRS activities, the operating frequency is 144.39 MHz.



Kevin Opalka, KL1V, has graciously agreed to be our APRS guru. Feel free to reach out to Kevin at [aprs \(at\) kl7aa.net](mailto:aprs(at)kl7aa.net).

Additional info from Kevin Opalka



VEC Report

We are still conducting twice-daily remote testing with our crew of VEs from across the country, and world! However, we have ALSO restarted started in-person exams with sessions held in Anchorage, Kenai/Soldotna, and in Jamestown, Tennessee! We are always willing to from additional in-person exam teams anywhere.

Here are the final statistics for 2023:

- Number of Exam Sessions: 684
- Number of People Tested: 679
- Number of Passed Exams: 649
- Number of Volunteer Examiners: 130
- Number VE Volunteer Hours: 4,642

Check out the following page to read more about becoming a VE and to apply:

<https://kl7aa.org/vec/become-accredited/>

Swap & Shop



Kenwood Station and Accessories for Sale

By: Tyson Wetzel, KL2WX
6/20/2023

I've posted on Craigslist and would like to share here as well.

<https://anchorage.craigslist.org/ele/d/anchorage-amateur-radio-equipment/7634896895.html> ^[1]

Everything appears to be in fantastic condition and includes boxes, manuals etc. See photos at the bottom of this post.

Kenwood TS-940SAT \$650
Kenwood TS-830S \$600
Kenwood VFO-230 \$350
Kenwood AT-230 \$225
Kenwood SP-230 \$100
Kenwood TM-2570A \$150
Kenwood TM-2550A \$125
Kenwood TL-922A \$1,500
Astron VS-50M \$250
Astron VS-35M \$150

Thank you,

Tyson Wetzel

KL2WX

tyson.o.wetzel@gmail.com



Swap & Shop – 6 HF Radios for Sale, 3 Flavors – KL7SB

Posted By *Kent Petty* On November 29, 2023 @ 1:28 PM In Swap & Shop

2 Icom IC7700 in great condition .. 2000 + shipping each

1 Icom IC7600 never used 1300 + shipping

1 Icom IC746 550 + shipping

1 Kenwood TS830S seems to work 500 + shipping

2 Kenwood TS590S .. both work .. one older, unknown use 600 + shipping, one newer, almost never used 1000 + shipping

2 Yaesu FT1000MP Mark V .. both in excellent condition .. 900 + shipping ea

I can be contacted at 907-301-2653 and kl7sb@arri.net

Thanks and 73
Steve KL7SB

MOTOROLA XPR 4550 and TYT-390 package deal (\$375.00)

Posted By *Kent Petty* On December 16, 2023 @ 11:33 AM In Swap & Shop

XPR4550 Analog/Digital (DMR) UHF Mobile/Base Radio 25/45-watt output, includes power cable, microphone has a forward-facing speaker, thumb drive with a 120-page user manual on it along with software (code-plug) and programming cable, mobile bracket, good shape has been an indoors base, no box, Shipping will be USPS Flat Rate Priority box radio non-smoking environment.

TYT MD-390 UHF Analog/Digital HT, with the following "2" Antennas, battery pack and charger, belt clip, hand mic, user manual, Programming software and cable used very little. I bought this radio brand new comes packed in the original box.

Price is \$375.00 including shipping. **Shipping will be USPS Flat Rate Priority box, USPS Money Order or PayPal, sold as-is no returns well send out as soon as I receive payment.** I will pack this well for safe shipping. My email here on QRZ is good for PP.

Toby
KL2T
Tobyr35w@gmail.com
907 399-7667





Our Partners

CQ Radios

AARC is an Affiliate Partner with CQ Radios Communication Products. CQ Radios offers a great selection of the latest Anytone radios and accessories and DMR hotspots for a great price. Plus, if you use the discount code of "AARC10" at checkout, you'll get a 10% discount on your purchase and benefit the club as well! <https://cqradios.com/>



SignalStuff

Signal Stuff provides the ExamTools system that we use to administer many of our exam sessions as well as the free study website HamStudy.org. All product sales go to support these products and sales using the affiliate link below also support AARC. Signal Stuff is the producer of the Super-Elastic Signal Sticks for HTs, the Super-Elastic Signal Stalk for mobile use (NMO mount), and the Signal Staff Collapsible OSJ antenna for base use. They also have a small selection of high quality adapters. <https://signalstuff.com/?ref=3935>



Special Reports

ARRLF 2022 Grant

The received a grant through the ARRL Foundation Grant Program in September of 2022 for \$25,000. The purpose of the grant was to help fund our various programs, including to help offset operating costs such as rent, insurance, utilities, etc. We are so appreciative of the receipt of this grant. It is clear that the ARRLF Grant Committee found merit in our application. Kudos to our Board for working so hard to put together a comprehensive package to justify this request. Two reports were required to be issued back to the Foundation. Those reports are listed below.

ARRLF 2022 Grant 6-Month Club Grant Program Update

Thank you for providing this update to allow the ARRL Foundation to demonstrate the value of the program to others. Your input is valuable in showing just how funding is used for the betterment of amateur radio.

1. How has your club utilized grant funds to fulfill your project? What is yet to be done?

The Anchorage Amateur Radio Club (AARC) was awarded an ARRL Foundation (ARRLF) grant with a start date of 2022 Sep 01. Often grants are tailored to specific capital construction projects, however our organization requested funding for ongoing operational costs to keep our facility open, and as a bridge to future funding streams. Our grant request covered one year of targeted expenses, and our accounting software indicates an adequate cash-flow correlation reflecting the six-month (or 50% complete) stage.

Anchorage Amateur Radio Club, Inc.

ARRLF Grant

All Dates

	*RESTRICTED GRANTS	ARRLF GRANT 2022-09-01	TOTAL *RESTRICTED GRANTS	TOTAL
Income				
Foundation Grants		25,000.00	25,000.00	\$25,000.00
Total Income	\$0.00	\$25,000.00	\$25,000.00	\$25,000.00
GROSS PROFIT	\$0.00	\$25,000.00	\$25,000.00	\$25,000.00
Expenses				
Insurance				\$0.00
Vehicle		2,541.00	2,541.00	\$2,541.00
Total Insurance		2,541.00	2,541.00	\$2,541.00
Rent & Lease		7,108.80	7,108.80	\$7,108.80
Utilities				\$0.00
Electric		1,750.90	1,750.90	\$1,750.90
Natural Gas		2,350.28	2,350.28	\$2,350.28
Security		150.00	150.00	\$150.00
Telephone		402.35	402.35	\$402.35
Total Utilities		4,653.53	4,653.53	\$4,653.53
Total Expenses	\$0.00	\$14,303.33	\$14,303.33	\$14,303.33
NET OPERATING INCOME	\$0.00	\$10,696.67	\$10,696.67	\$10,696.67
NET INCOME	\$0.00	\$10,696.67	\$10,696.67	\$10,696.67

Yet to be done are the remaining expenditures that will support our facility during continuous operation into the next year.

2. Is your project ongoing or have you accomplished your goals? What goals remain that you are working on or goals that you have identified that you will not be able to achieve?

Our project is on-going, and our initial six-month expenditures covered a good portion of the "winter months" in Alaska (September through February). We are looking forward to an active summer construction season and have both capital and maintenance projects on the schedule.

The AARC Board of Directors have specifically chosen to use club funds only in support of the continued operation of our facility, for example, to pay rent, insurance, electricity, heating, maintenance and related expenses.

At present we require radio, antenna and other capital projects to be funded out-of-pocket by the project managers who wish to improve the operational characteristics of the facility. Often several project managers will team up to cover these out-of-pocket expenses.

3. Can you show examples of successes from your project? Examples of events, pictures, write-ups?



THE RADIO SCIENCE AND OPERATIONS CENTER (RSOC) – FORMER FCC MONITORING STATION

In the six (6) months since the grant was awarded, the AARC has been able to keep our flagship facility, the Radio Science and Operations Center (RSOC) functioning as intended.

The facility is the former Federal Communications Commission (FCC) Monitoring Station, and was “built for purpose” for radio. The AARC has installed HF, VHF, UHF and MESH (microwave) radio systems. The AARC is taking full advantage of the property, which is arguably a world class radio facility.

The building is a 7,600 SF structure, consisting of an Operations Center, a kitchen with microwave, gas oven, refrigerator, a mess hall with bathroom, two (2) classroom facilities, a radio museum, and office space for our 501(c)3 corporate activity.

There are two (2) restrooms, both equipped with showers, a radio laboratory (with work benches, soldering stations and test equipment), four (4) garage bays for the club’s diesel response vehicles.

One vehicle is a Ford EB-350 converted ambulance (with Quigley 4WD conversion) and the other is a Ford F-350 4x4 dually. The facility supports three (3) emergency deployment twin-axle trailers, one a 12’ enclosed trailer that holds a disassembled 8’x 20’ Weather-Port tent, along with two tower and power trailers, equipped with 12 kW and 10 kW diesel generators and 40’ crank-up and 65’ pneumatic masts.

Some highlights from the past six months include:

HEIGHTS ALUMINUM TOWER INSTALLATION

Last fall, a 50 ft. Heights aluminum tower was installed to support new antennas covering ten (10) frequency bands. An Alpha-Delta dipole covers 80-40-20-15-10 meters in the amateur bands, a VHF-220-UHF triband vertical is on the top of the tower, and there are two additional HF dipoles.

One dipole, optimized for Near Vertical Incidence Skywave (NVIS), is cut for 5.3 MHz and supports both 60m amateur operation and adjacent Government frequencies used by our Department of Homeland Security (DHS) Auxiliary SHARES (SHARed RESources) station, call sign NNAØLP.



HEIGHTS ALUMINUM TOWER (ON THE RIGHT) DURING A WINTER SNOW STORM

Another NVIS dipole is cut for government frequencies in the 4.5 MHz range, and supports SHARES operations that include the Alaska State SHARES net, hosted by the RSOC each Wednesday morning.

The tower and antennas survived the 2023 “snow-pocalypse” where three winter storms brought 75% of an average seasonal snowfall in ten (10) days, and was followed by “wind-pocalypse” where the strongest winds in 20 years were experienced, with a 68-mph wind gust recorded near the site.

DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS (DVA) ANTENNA TROUBLESHOOTING AND REPAIR

DVA personnel contacted RSOC staff and requested assistance in trouble-shooting their SHARES communications system, call sign KFO236.

There are multiple antennas and radios at their facility, and at the time, none of them were working. Of particular interest was their CODAN Envoy Radio, with a 500-watt amplifier, feeding a Hex-beam.

The CODAN system is expected to communicate with their liaison office in Washington state but was non-functional when we were called.

RSOC staff arranged for a site visit and brought our test equipment and our expertise. A dummy load was connected first to the exciter, and then to the amplifier, and both were operating correctly. We then inspected the coax feed-line using a AIM-UHF analyzer, and the Time Domain Reflectometer (TDR) function determined that an “open” existed about 30 feet from the radio.

Moving outside the roof-top (penthouse) equipment room, we traced the coaxial cable to a Hex-beam installation, and noted a sealed and taped joint at the distance indicated by our TDR. This was the location of the problem: An inline lightning protector with an open gas-discharge tube.

As a temporary fix, we bypassed the faulty component with a barrel connector and were able to sweep the coax and Hex-beam and report the measured 3:1 SWR bandwidth to DVA staff. After our site visit and temporary repairs, DVA station KFO236 was able to make contact with their liaison station in Washington state.

KFO 236

HEXBEAM SWR BANDWIDTH - FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY

BAND	3:1	2:1	LOW	2:1	3:1
20	14000	14100	14325	14650	14800
17	17050	17150	17650	17875	18050
15	19250	19300	19850	20200	20400
12	22425	22500	22940	23250	23460
10	25770	25900	26500	27200	27840



Kent, KLSI used an extension ladder to inspect the coax feedline and found a faulty component, an inline L COM lightning protector with an open gas discharge tube.

ALASKA EMERGENCY FREQUENCY TESTS ON 5167.5 kHz

Alaska holds a unique frequency assignment, outside the established 60-meter amateur radio channel allocations, on 5167.5 kHz. Based on a petition to the FCC by the AARC, and supported by the ARRL, the RSOC now hosts a test of the Alaska Emergency Frequency on the last Saturday of each month.

These tests are conducted on behalf of the State of Alaska Emergency Operations Center (SEOC) and each month a summary report is prepared and submitted for their records. FEMA Region X staff are copied in. Excerpts from FCC Report & Order 06-149A1 promoting this activity follow:

I. Alaska Emergency Frequency

47. *Background.* Currently, Section 97.401(d) of our Rules²⁰⁷ authorizes an amateur station in Alaska, or at a location within 92.6 kilometers of Alaska where we regulate the amateur service, to transmit communications during emergencies on 5.1675 MHz (the Alaska Emergency Frequency), but not communications for training drills and tests.²⁰⁸ In the *NPRM*, the Commission requested comment on whether it should also authorize an amateur station in or near Alaska to transmit communications during tests and drills on 5.1675 MHz.²⁰⁹

48. *Decision.* Based on the record before us, we believe allowing an amateur station in, or within 92.6 kilometers of, Alaska to transmit communications during drills and tests on 5.1675 MHz is warranted. We note that ARRL supports the proposed changes, stating that "the use of the frequency in Alaska is less valuable unless radio amateurs are prepared for its use in emergencies."²¹⁰ In this regard ARRL argues that amateur stations conduct "serious, and

extremely professional emergency drills and tests," and this new authority would be of great value to the citizens of Alaska.²¹¹ Accordingly, we will revise our Rules to authorize amateur stations in or near Alaska to transmit communications for training drills and testing purposes on 5.1675 MHz, in addition to communications during emergencies, because we believe this change will enhance emergency communication capabilities, thus serving the public interest.

USAF 673RD COMMUNICATIONS SQUADRON EXERCISE NOBLE SKYWAVE

The RSOC provides formal High Frequency (HF) radio training to elements of the USAF 673rd Communications Squadron (CS). Our facility supports their participation in a world-wide communications exercise, hosted by Canadian Armed Forces, called Exercise Noble Skywave.

USAF 673rd CS personnel set up their equipment at our facility and participate in a 30-hour communications competition in October.

In addition, but prior to the ARRLF grant award, the USAF 673rd CS reached out to the RSOC to host their participation in another radio training opportunity, the US Army Network Enterprise Technology Command (NETCOM) HF Center of Excellence HF Skills Challenge (25-27 July 2022).

We believe these same training opportunities may again be realized during the grant reporting period, with USAF participation expected in 2023.



USAF 673rd CS HARRIS FAN DIPOLE & ANTENNA COUPLER INSTALLED AT THE RSOC FOR NOBLE SKYWAVE

DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY (DHS) SHARED RESOURCES (SHARES) COORDINATION NETS

The RSOC activates each Wednesday morning from 0700 to 1200, where volunteers check-in with six (6) DHS SHARES nets: National, Idaho, Northwest, West, National CW, and we host the Alaska SHARES net.

These operations are conducted on behalf of the State of Alaska Emergency Operations Center (SEOC) and a summary report is prepared each week and submitted for their records. FEMA Region X staff are copied in.

SOUTH-CENTRAL SIMPLEX NET (SCSN)

Activated by the RSOC each Wednesday evening from 1900 to 2100, the SCSN emphasizes the role simplex will play in emergency communications. The net changes frequencies and modes, including FM, SSB, AM and D-Star, and operates in the HF, VHF, UHF, 220, 1.2 GHz and 927 MHz spectrum.

RSOC FACILITY MAINTENANCE (WINTER / SUMMER)

The RSOC is the rough equivalent of owning a 7,600 SF home, with a four-car garage, on 1.9 acres of land, with chain-link perimeter fencing, and having a well and septic. In the winter, we do our own snow plowing, snow blowing and hand shoveling. In the summer, we maintain the equipment to mow and trim the grass. This is on top of facility, electronics, radio and tower maintenance. We have no paid staff, and all out-of-pocket expenses (and all labor) are provided by volunteers.



KENT, KL5T USING PERSONAL EQUIPMENT TO MAINTAIN THE RSOC (PLOW TRUCK NOT SHOWN)

Facility maintenance (so far this year) has included work on a garage unit heater, replacing a hot water boiler expansion tank, performing lighting replacement and upgrades, and computer network enhancements. We are in the process of upgrading our security system with additional annunciators and exterior cameras. All upgrades will be out-of-pocket donations, with labor provided by volunteers.

Along with maintenance at the RSOC facility, our organization maintains the Alaska Native Tribal Health Consortium (ANTHC) HF Radio Message Server (RMS), as well as amateur radio VHF, UHF and MESH equipment located at ANTHC headquarters. In addition, we maintain VHF, UHF and MESH equipment at the Providence Medical Center Hospital Command Center (HCC), and the Alaska Search and Rescue Association (ASARA) headquarters, which is co-located with the Alaska State Troopers (AST).

We are responsible for several VHF, UHF and 220 MHz repeater systems, with some sites having helicopter access only, as well as supporting a robust MESH network with links operating on 3.6 GHz and 5.8 GHz frequencies.

RSOC FACILITY MAINTENANCE (WINTER / SUMMER)

It is not always snowing in Alaska and we do see green grass from time to time. Our facility leases 1.9 acres inside the fence, but we also have access, by Permit, to an additional 140 acres north of a double-swing pipe gate in our perimeter fence.

We maintain the grounds inside the chain-link, but also keep the “access roads” open into the 140 acres north of the fenced-in property. This northern area was part of the original FCC antenna field that included rhombic antennas, vertical monopoles (with ground screens), and Adcock and Wullenweber direction finding arrays. These legacy antenna systems were decommissioned and removed by the FCC, but antenna field access is still preserved as long as we can keep the “jeep trails” open by knocking down the brush.

As a 501(c)(3) non-profit, we are able to bid on State and Federal surplus equipment. We were successful in purchasing a used John Deere 1445 Series II front mower, which we rebuilt and maintain to keep the grounds in order, both inside and outside the chain-link.



DAVE, N9AIG AND THE JOHN DEERE MOWER - PURCHASED SURPLUS & MAINTAINED BY VOLUNTEERS

RSOC BATTERY MAINTENANCE

The AARC receives a variety of donations, and the challenge is to sort out what is usable (or repairable) and what needs to be recycled. Donated batteries are always welcome, but they need to be assessed as to their condition prior to placing them service. Our biggest battery bank is manufactured by Absolyte; a 12-volt lead-acid AGM type battery that is rated at 1200 amp-hours at a 20-hour discharge rate. The battery is kept on a float charge so that it is always ready in case of an emergency.

Recently, this battery bank was exhibiting a leaky cell through the positive terminal. Its voltage was still acceptable, but because of the leak, it was decided to remove the leaky cell and replace it with one of our spare cells that was in better shape. Below is a photograph of the battery bank, with its protective covers removed, and sitting on machinery rollers:



The task was to remove battery number 6 located on the top battery bank and replace it with battery number 9. Our club is fortunate to have a loaned engine hoist that was used to perform the heavy lifting.

The battery bank buss bar was removed, and the battery was rolled out to separate the two 6-volt sections. The top 6-volt battery was lifted off the bottom section and placed on a moving dolly that was rated for 1000 pounds. Keep in mind that each battery cell weighs 134 pounds, in addition to the weight of the steel battery case. Below is a photograph of the top section being lifted with the engine hoist:



During the lift and subsequent to lifting, care was exercised to not swing the face of the battery into a conductor. The fault current of a battery this size is in the thousands of amperes.

Next, the 6-volt battery had to be placed on end so that the bad battery cell could be removed. The following photo shows how the individual cell was removed using the engine hoist:



Note that the battery is lifted by its terminals. Two pieces of steel angle iron were fabricated and then carefully bolted across the batteries positive and negative terminals respectively.

The whole process is reversed to install a replacement cell.

The completed battery is shown below with replacement cell number 9 installed with the buss bar over the top:



The battery protective covers were reinstalled and placed back on a float charger. The whole process of replacing the cell took about 4 hours for one individual.

4. If your project involves training new hams, can you show numbers of people trained and outline the benefits for your trainees?

The RSOC hosts a weekly simplex radio net each Wednesday evening, called the South-Central Simplex Net (SCSN). As the name implies, operation is simplex only, and encourages operators to understand the value simplex operation will provide during an emergency.

All license classes are welcome; however, the net pays particular attention to new hams, offering advice and even trouble-shooting both over-the-air and at our facility.

This on-the-air radio experience is then leveraged to recruit both new and experienced operators to participate in a variety of Public Service events (see Question 7).

Our net operates on multiple bands and modes, and we track activity by week, month, and year-over-year, to explore trends in participation. The following summarizes net involvement (per month) and compares Year-To-Date (YTD) with year-over-year activity from the prior year. Note the increase in participation in each band / mode category:

146.52 FM +1.7%

144.20 USB	+18.7%	
145.67 D-Star	+23.1%	
446.00 FM	+7.8%	
423.20 USB	+17.4%	
441.00 D-Star	+19.1%	
1294.50 FM	+40.6%	
1296.10 USB	+36.1%	
1294.30 D-Star	+35.3%	
223.50 FM	+5.3%	
52.525 FM	+10.7%	
50.125 USB	+16.6%	
29.600 FM	+5.9%	Note: General Class and higher only
28.400 USB	+13.4%	
29.075 AM	+14.2%	Note: General Class and higher only
27.035 CB	+2.6%	
927.50 FM	+26.4%	
PACKET RADIO	+70.4%	
APRS TEXT	+8.0%	

Growth in participation may be attributed, in part, to the accessibility of this net to new operators, and in part to the proliferation of multi-mode rigs available from ICOM and other manufacturers.

In our accounting, each band / mode contact is considered a separate a check-in, and during the current six-month grant reporting period (September-February) the net had a total of 5,447 check-ins. An additional 1,239 check-ins occurred during March (outside the grant reporting period) and another 1,075 in April (outside the grant reporting period) for a total of 7,761 discrete check-ins.

Net control is headquartered at our flagship facility in west Anchorage. The facility is configured with five (5) operating positions to support the SCSN and other HF nets. Radio operators are recruited from our ranks to staff these operating positions, and are supervised by Radio Watch Officers. This environment provides ample opportunities for improving skills and sets a high bar for operator performance.

5. For projects involving equipment purchases, can you show completed purchases? What do you have yet to purchase? What roadblocks are you encountering?

Under this grant, we do not have any projects involving equipment purchases.

The AARC Board of Directors has specifically chosen to use club funds only in support of the continued operation of the RSOC facility, for example, to pay the rent, insurance, electricity, heating, maintenance and related expenses.

At present, we require radio, antenna and other capital projects to be funded out-of-pocket by the project managers who wish to improve the operational characteristics of the facility. Often several project managers will team up to cover these out-of-pocket expenses.

6. Where do you feel you are in your project? Is this an ongoing program or one time purchase? Can you show a timeline for your project milestones and accomplishments?

This grant is a one-time program, to be used as a bridge to future funding streams, while supporting continued operation of our facility.

7. Can you give examples of how your project has impacted the amateur community and the public around you for the better? Try to be specific on positive impacts and achievements.

The AARC supports many Public Service events, some going back more than 25 years. Scheduled participation for the 2023 summer season includes:

Walk For Hope	2023-05-06
MS Walk at Lake Hood	2023-05-06
Women's Gold Nugget Triathlon	2023-05-21
Alaska Run for Women	2023-06-10
Friends of Pets Dog Jog	2023-07-22
Anchorage Runfest	2023-08-20

For these events we establish a no cost communications infrastructure, staffed entirely by radio volunteers, supporting various checkpoints, water drops, medical facilities and headquarters locations, while also providing general route surveillance and dispatch capability using bicycle mobile stations.

These events provide an opportunity for training and are conducted under the banner of Amateur Radio Emergency Service (ARES). Participation in these events is an excellent training opportunity for the amateur community, and the sponsors of these events are universal in expressing their thanks, gratitude and appreciation of our effort.

8. Please share any major barriers or difficulties in your project and how you have or plan to overcome them.

As you might imagine, an all-volunteer, non-profit enterprise funding a world-class radio facility is a difficult challenge. It is roughly the equivalent of maintaining a 7,600 SF home, with a four-car garage, on 1.9 acres of land, and having a well and septic.

At present, we have no secure funding sources, but we have established a "legacy donor" program that did receive one Qualified Charitable Distribution (QCD) from an Individual Retirement Account (IRA).

This donation is invested and the income will be re-invested to grow the principle. Our goal is a fully funded donor account that provides sufficient monthly income to support our facility.

We have issued one, in a series of several planned AARC / RSOC "challenge coins" that have sold well enough to break into the black.

We have a RAVN Airlines flight voucher that was donated by one of our members and we are raffling off that voucher to raise funds. As a State of Alaska Charitable Gaming Permit holder, we can conduct on-line or traditional ticket raffles and are getting the process established with the flight voucher as our first example.

We have sold radios and other equipment, surplus to our needs, on eBay and via direct sales. Our organization often receives donations of equipment, antennas, towers, coax and other items from club members, the community, and their families.

As a public service, we assist families who may have a Silent Key by helping them establish fair market value for estate items, and in facilitating direct sales. Often the family simply donates the equipment.

We have acquired an Alaska Business License to operate "RSOC Services" as a consulting firm, separate from our non-profit 501(c)3 activity. We have established our presence on SAM.gov, which enabled us to register as a vendor with the Department of Veterans Affairs (DVA). We may be providing them with consulting and general services that could produce billable hours.

9. What steps have you taken or plan to take to work with ARRL to promote your project and the benefits you are achieving via the Club Grant Program?

We are including this report as a blog post on our website. Posting a blog to our website automatically pushes the content to Facebook and Twitter. At present, we have not taken any specific steps to work directly with ARRL to promote our project and the benefits achieved through the Club Grant Program.

ARRLF 2022 Grant Final Grant Program Update

Club Name & Call Sign: Anchorage Amateur Radio Club, KL7AA

Author Name & Call Sign: TJ Sheffield, KL7TS

Brief description of project: One year of targeted operating expenses helps keep facility open.

*Thank you for working with ARRL for this Club Grant 2022. For this **Final Report** please include any new pictures, news reports, or other supporting documents (financial receipts, blog reviews, club member statements, etc.) that can further demonstrate the value your club and community has found in this grant, as well as answer the provided questions below. Your input is valuable in showing just how funding is used for the betterment of amateur radio.*

1. Please describe a brief overview of your grant project. How has your club utilized grant funds to fulfill your project? What is yet to be done?

The Anchorage Amateur Radio Club (AARC) was awarded an ARRL Foundation (ARRLF) grant with a start date of 2022 SEP 01. Often grants are tailored to specific capital construction projects, however our organization requested funding for ongoing operational costs, to help keep our facility open, and as a

Anchorage Amateur Radio Club, Inc.

Profit and Loss by Customer

All Dates

	*RESTRICTED GRANTS	ARRLF GRANT 2022-09-01	TOTAL *RESTRICTED GRANTS	TOTAL
Income				
Foundation Grants		25,000.00	25,000.00	\$25,000.00
Total Income	\$0.00	\$25,000.00	\$25,000.00	\$25,000.00
GROSS PROFIT	\$0.00	\$25,000.00	\$25,000.00	\$25,000.00
Expenses				
Insurance				\$0.00
Property		1,178.50	1,178.50	\$1,178.50
Vehicle		2,541.00	2,541.00	\$2,541.00
Total Insurance		3,719.50	3,719.50	\$3,719.50
Rent & Lease		13,032.80	13,032.80	\$13,032.80
Utilities				\$0.00
Electric		3,227.06	3,227.06	\$3,227.06
Natural Gas		4,007.54	4,007.54	\$4,007.54
Security		275.00	275.00	\$275.00
Telephone		738.10	738.10	\$738.10
Total Utilities		8,247.70	8,247.70	\$8,247.70
Total Expenses	\$0.00	\$25,000.00	\$25,000.00	\$25,000.00
NET OPERATING INCOME	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
NET INCOME	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00

bridge to future funding streams. Our grant request covered one year of targeted expenses, and our accounting software identifies where the targeted funds were applied.

2. Is your project ongoing or have you accomplished your goals? What goals remain that you are working on or goals that you have identified that you will not be able to achieve?

Our project is on-going, in that the project is keeping our flagship facility open. The AARC Board of Directors has specifically chosen to use these grant funds only in support of the continued operation of the facility, for example, to pay rent, insurance, electricity, heating, maintenance and related expenses.

At present we require radio, antenna and other capital projects to be funded out-of-pocket by the project managers who wish to improve the operational characteristics of the facility, and often several managers will team up to cover these out-of-pocket expenses.

Separate grant funding, for a specific capital project undertaken by a club officer, has received direct funding from Amateur Radio Digital Communications (ARDC).

3. Can you show examples of successes from your project? Examples of events, pictures, write-ups?



THE RADIO SCIENCE AND OPERATIONS CENTER (RSOC) – FORMER FCC MONITORING STATION

In the twelve (12) months covered by the ARRLF grant, the AARC has been able to keep our flagship facility, the Radio Science and Operations Center (RSOC), functioning as intended.

The facility is the former Federal Communications Commission (FCC) Monitoring Station, and was “built for purpose” for radio. The AARC has installed HF, VHF, UHF and MESH (microwave) radio systems and is taking full advantage of the property, which is arguably a world class radio facility.

The building is a 7,600 SF structure, consisting of an Operations Center, a kitchen with microwave, gas oven, refrigerator, a mess hall with bathroom, two (2) classroom facilities, a radio museum, and office space for our 501(c)3 corporate activity.

There are two (2) restrooms, each equipped with showers, a radio laboratory (with work benches, soldering stations and test equipment), and four (4) garage bays for the club's response vehicles.

One vehicle is a Ford EB-350 ambulance (with Quigley 4WD conversion) and the other is a Ford F-350 4x4 dually. The facility supports three (3) emergency deployment twin-axle trailers, one a 12' enclosed trailer that holds a disassembled 8'x 20' Weather-Port tent, and two tower and power trailers, equipped with 12 kW and 10 kW diesel generators and 40' crank-up and 65' pneumatic masts.



BROKEN FIBERGLASS MAST SUPPORTED WIRE ANTENNAS FOR SEVEN BANDS

The facility has experienced two challenging winter seasons. In 2022 / 2023, three consecutive snow storms brought 75% of a single season's snowfall in ten (10) days. This season, our year-to-date snowfall currently stands at 79.5" with more expected. Last season was called "snow-pocalypse" by the media and it took until February 4th to reach the 70" level. We are already at 79.5" and it is just past Winter Solstice. Making partial repairs to the broken fiberglass mast (above) involved a significant effort, using snowshoes, to untangle and replace the damaged support mast. The system supports wire dipoles for five amateur bands with two additional dipoles for SHARES ("SHARED RESources").



CLUB PRESIDENT KL2AZ REPAIRS A MEMBER DONATED SNOWBLOWER

ARRLF grant funds were used only for operational expenses, to keep the facility open, and all repairs are funded out-of-pocket, with labor donated by the volunteers.

RSOC FACILITY SNOW MAINTENANCE

As noted in the 6-month grant report, winter activity includes snow maintenance. Our snow removal equipment is either owned by club members, or has been donated by club members, and all equipment is operated by volunteers.

It is possible to estimate the snow tonnage moved so far in 2023. The facility has 17,675 square feet (SF) of paved vehicle access, which is routinely cleared of snow. Our volunteers put in an additional 1,016 SF of “winter trails” that lead to our AB-105 tower, and to the base of our Shared Apex Loop (SAL-30) receive-only antenna. This is a total of 18,691 SF that must be plowed and/or blown open.

We use two metrics to estimate snow tonnage: The height of fallen snow (in inches), obtained from the National Weather Service (NWS); and the height of snowpack (in inches), also from the NWS.

Inches are converted into feet, and combined with the square footage numbers an estimate of cubic feet (CF) of snow is derived.

Estimating snow density is an art, so two techniques are employed, and these values are averaged.

Height of fallen snow: 79.5" assumes new snow, slightly compacted by wind, that is, snow immediately after falling, in below-freezing temperatures, with some wind exposure (i.e. less trapped air). Density is assumed at 4.46 PCF (pounds per cubic foot) and this calculates to 276 tons (TN) of snow.

Height of snowpack: 25" assumes settled snow, typically after more than one day in place, and the snow has experienced some temperature and wind variation. Density is assumed at 15.61 PCF and this yields 304 TN.

These values average **290 TN** or approximately **580,000 lbs.** of snow moved so far.

Even though the timing of this activity is somewhat outside of the grant reporting period, it reflects the challenge of keeping our facility open and functional.

THE RSOC FACILITY IS A COMMUNITY RESOURCE

Our facility has two meeting rooms, both equipped with conference tables, chairs, white boards, computers and overhead light projectors, where we host activities as a community service. The Joint Medical Emergency Preparedness Group (JMEPG) has held their meetings here, and we host the Lake Hood Squadron of the Civil Air Patrol (CAP). This is a youth-oriented CAP squadron and they meet once a week at our facility.

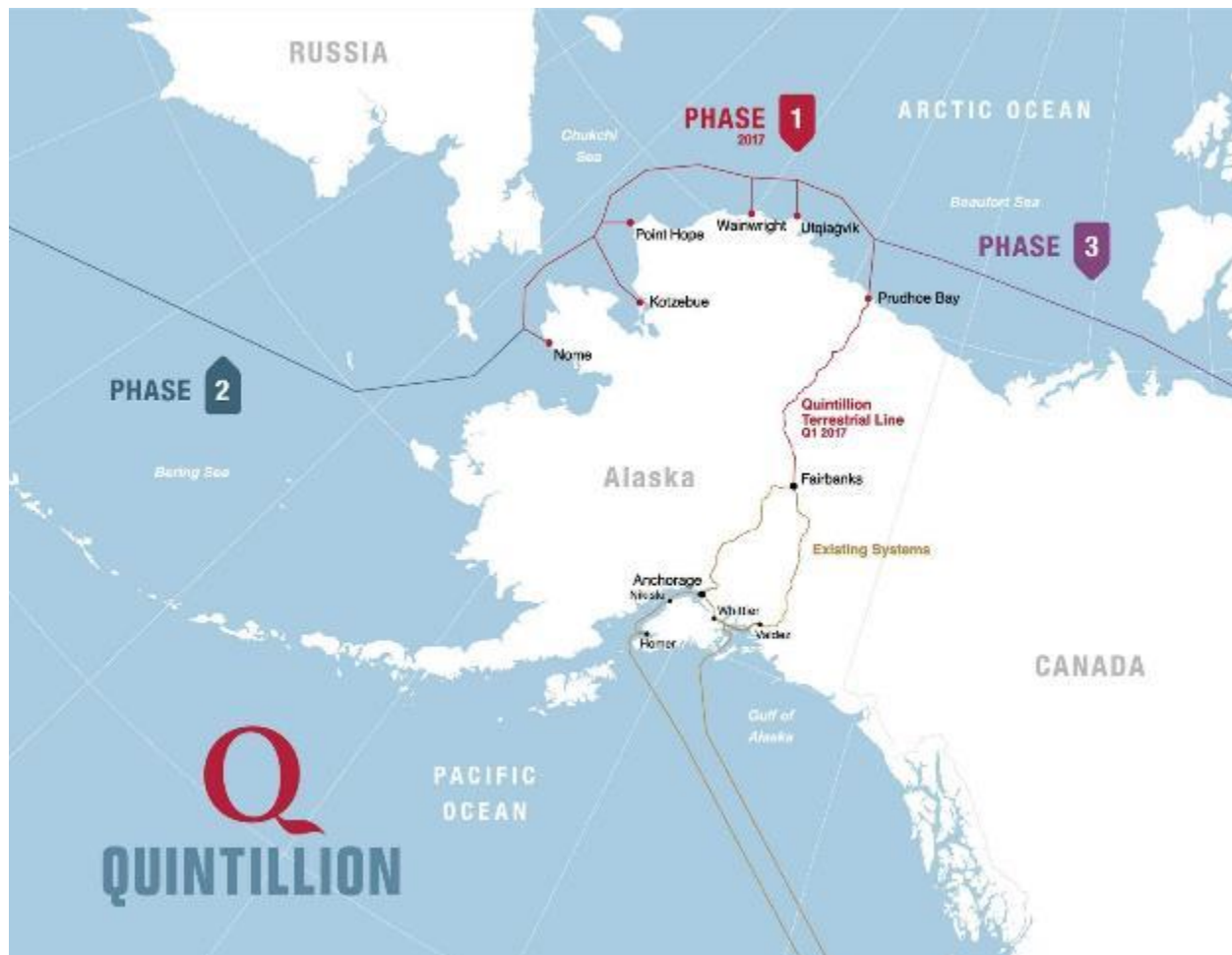
COMMUNICATIONS PROJECTS

Several communications projects were initiated or completed during the grant reporting period. We purchased, programmed and relocated a storm-damaged 220 MHz repeater to our Hillside South location, including new feedline and antenna. This repeater supports direct communication with the Kenai Peninsula, a distance of approximately 150 road miles from Anchorage, AK.

Our volunteers are experimenting with 915 MHz Long Range Wireless (LoRa) equipment, as a potential emergency communications technique. Our organization is an associate member of the Alaska Search and Rescue Association (ASARA) and we are working with team members to evaluate this equipment for text messaging, and to report the course, speed and position of deployed search teams.

As a Department of Homeland Security (DHS) Shared Resources (SHARES) High Frequency (HF) Radio program station, we petitioned the Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency (CISA) to establish the Alaska SHARES net, which was successfully added to their organizational structure. The Alaska SHARES net is hosted by the RSOC, and is activated every week, in conjunction with the SHARES National, West, Northwest, Idaho, National CW and other nets.

Recent fiber cable cuts effecting the north and northwest coasts of Alaska have reinforced the need for backup communications in these remote locations. Our volunteers are developing a prototype HF radio system, for deployment in remote Alaska communities, and are working with our partners in medical infrastructure to identify suitable locations for testing.



SEA ICE FIBER CUTS ON THE ARCTIC COAST SUPPORTS NEED FOR PROTOTYPE HF RADIO COMM SYSTEM

DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS (DVA) ANTENNA TROUBLESHOOTING AND REPAIR

During the first phase of the ARRLF grant, DVA personnel contacted RSOC staff and requested assistance trouble-shooting their SHARES communications system, call sign KFO236. We fixed their long-haul communications system (see 6-month grant report), and they asked us back to evaluate and repair their regional comm system. We accomplished a site visit and equipment evaluation, however work in this area is on-going.

We are interested in adding the DVA to our weekly SHARES net participation, and in addition, we are actively seeking out points-of-contact for agencies listed with SHARES authorizations who are not currently active on the nets.

ALASKA EMERGENCY FREQUENCY TESTS ON 5167.5 kHz

Alaska holds a unique frequency assignment, outside the established 60-meter amateur radio channel allocations, on 5167.5 kHz. Based on a petition to the FCC by the AARC, and supported by the ARRL, the RSOC continues to host a test of the Alaska Emergency Frequency on the last Saturday of each month.

These tests are conducted on behalf of the State of Alaska Emergency Operations Center (SEOC) and each month a summary report is prepared and submitted for their records. These tests continue on a monthly basis (see 6-month grant report).

FCC RM-11785 60-METER ALLOCATION COMMENTS

FCC RM-11785 identified proposed changes to the 60-meter amateur radio allocation, and our club made a significant effort to inform, educate and encourage club members, and other interested parties to file comments supporting the ARRL position on the proposed 60-meter amateur radio allocation.

ARRL VOLUNTEERS ON-THE-AIR (VOTA) PARTICIPATION

Our organization was contacted by ARRL Headquarters and asked to participate, in a leadership role, during the 2nd Alaska activation of W1AW/KL7, in support of the year-long VOTA operating activity.

The organization stepped up and logged 3,225 QSOs during our activation, using Digital, CW and SSB, and included contacts on 927.5 MHz and 1.2GHz frequencies.

In addition, club members and officers used their individual call signs to expand opportunities to contact Alaska and earn points for the VOTA tally. Our Past Section Manager participated and he is worth 100 points per contact.

RAVN ALASKA AIRLINES TCI 613 BICONICAL BROADBAND DIPOLE

On the roof of a RAVN Alaska hanger, at the Anchorage International Airport, is a broadband, commercial grade HF radio antenna that was originally installed by Reeve Aleutian Airways.

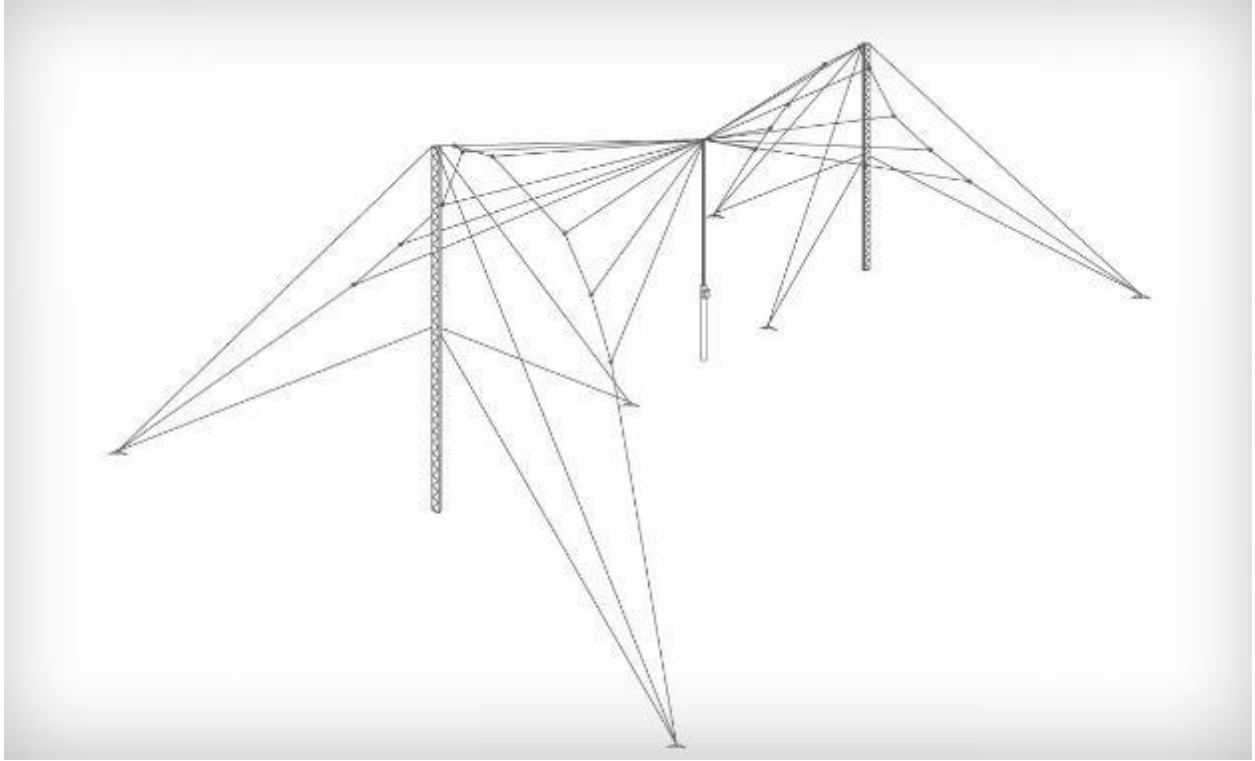
Reeve Aleutian used this antenna to communicate with their aircraft flying along the Chain. The antenna is no longer used by RAVN Alaska, the current owners.

The hanger itself is a classic Alaska aviation structure, with a notch cut out in the bay door header to accommodate a Super DC-3S, with the larger, squared-off vertical stabilizer (and swept back wings).

Staff from the RSOC did a preliminary site visit to evaluate the antenna, and found it to be structurally and electrically sound. The coax feedline appears compromised, but in our opinion, the system would have great value to the citizens of Alaska if it were placed back into service.

Our goal is to install an HF Winlink Radio Mail Server (RMS) operating on this broadband antenna, with the system cross-connected to our Amateur Radio Emergency Data Network (AREDN) MESH network, operating on 2.4, 3.4 and 5.8 GHz.

We reached out to the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of RAVN Alaska regarding this antenna and our proposed project, and asked for their cooperation in placing the HF antenna back in service. We received their acknowledgement and permission, and will begin the project in the spring of 2024.



RAVN ALASKA TCI 613 BICONICAL BROADBAND ANTENNA, TO BE USED AS A WINLINK RMS

UNITED STATES AIR FORCE (USAF) 673RD COMMUNICATIONS SQUADRON EXERCISE
NOBLE SKYWAVE

The RSOC provides formal High Frequency (HF) radio training to elements of the USAF 673rd Communications Squadron (CS), stationed at Joint-Base Elmendorf / Richardson (JBER). Our facility supports their participation in a world-wide radio communications competition, hosted by Canadian Armed Forces, called Exercise Noble Skywave.

Following 40-hours of classroom and hands-on training, USAF 673rd CS personnel set up their equipment at our facility and participate in a 30-hour radio communications competition.



USAF 673rd CS OPERATING MILITARY HF RADIO EQUIPMENT DURING A 30-HOUR COMM EXERCISE

This year the 673rd CS brought in some new equipment: An antenna system with which our instructors were not familiar. In the past, we had worked with their L3Harris 1912T fan dipole, but the new antenna system needed study and evaluation to better appreciate its performance potential.



AMPHENOL / C&S ANTENNAS SPECIAL OPERATIONS FORCES (SOF) 230 ANTENNA SYSTEM

Our instructors quickly recognized the potential performance characteristics of the fifteen (15) antenna deployment options. Many of the deployment options are considered variations on classic HF radio antennas, such as:

Flat-top dipole.

Inverted-Vee, which in our opinion is incorrectly identified as “sloping dipole”.

Bent Dipole, which has the legs pulled back, in a crisscross fashion, for limited space deployment.

Inverted-L, with four ground radials available as a counterpoise, which are far too few in our opinion.

Base-Fed Vertical, which is a dipole with the center feed point pulled down to the ground, with the ends elevated, but again using only four ground radials.

SOF230 Multi-Configurable Antenna Specifications

ORDERING OPTIONS

Four versions are available, depending on transmitter power and accessories:

SOF230 150W continuous power and 400W PEP

SOF230/CW 150W continuous power and 400W PEP with collapsible cable winder

SOF230/1 500W continuous power and 1kW PEP

SOF230/1/CW 500W continuous power and 1kW PEP with collapsible cable winder

GENERAL SPECIFICATIONS

ELECTRICAL	
Frequency Range:	1.6 - 30 MHz
Coverage:	Short Range = 0-150 km Medium Range = 150-800 km Long Range = 800+ km
Input Impedance:	Nominal 50 ohms
Power:	SOF230 = 150W continuous 400W PEP SOF230/1 = 400W continuous 1kW PEP
Polarization:	Horizontal or Vertical
MECHANICAL	
Materials:	Cords: 8 plait pre-stretched polyester Conductor: PVC coated copper braid w/Kevlar high strength synthetic core Resistor: Non-inductive wire wound Balun Housing: GRP/Epoxy w
Weight:	SOF230 = 15 lbs (6.8 kg); SOF230/1 = 18 lbs (8.2 kg)
Dimensions WxHxD (stowed):	16.5 x 11.0 x 8.5 in (419 x 279 x 216 mm)
Connector Type:	SOF230 = Type BNC SOF230/1 = Type N
Storage:	Nylon bag with handle and shoulder strap
Optional Accessories:	Quick deploy aluminum cable winder w/collapsible folding handle

SOF230 ANTENNA CONFIGURATIONS

The multi-purpose tactical antenna kit provides a flexible system from which one of the following 15 different HF antenna configurations can be quickly installed:

- 1/4 Wave Tuned Dipole
- Sloping Wire
- Crossed Dipole
- Inverted Vee
- Sloping Vee
- Base Fed Vertical
- Inverted "L"
- Bent Dipole
- Sloping Dipole
- Horizontal Dipole
- Beverage
- 250' Long Wire w/Counterpoise
- Vertical Half-Rhombic
- Folded Dipole
- Off Center Fed Dipole

Note: This antenna comes complete with a counterpoise for situations where poor ground conditions exist.

Sloping Vee, with two variations, where both variations use impedance transforming baluns and termination resistors, which our instructors tend to characterize as "air cooled dummy loads".

Base-Fed Inverted Vee, with two variations. Both configurations use impedance transforming baluns and termination resistors.

Crossed Dipole. This configuration was of particular interest and seemed the best alternative.

Sloping Wire.

Dipole on the ground.

Note: The sales literature suggests 15 configurations, but the instruction manual only addresses 12.

The mast assembly used by the 673rd CS is a unique product, called a Rolacage, and is manufactured by Rolatube Technology. It consists of a flat carbon fiber sheet that has been induced into taking a "set" which enables it to deploy as a cylinder once released from the spool.

The carbon fiber sheet is stored flat when rolled up on the spool, but then curves into a cylinder when raised into the air. The carbon fiber mast is 10 meters (32.8 feet) high when fully deployed.



ROLACAGE / ROLATUBE TECHNOLOGY CARBON FIBER MAST, INITIAL DEPLOYMENT



ROLACAGE / ROLATUBE TECHNOLOGY CARBON FIBER MAST FULLY DEPLOYED, 10 METER HEIGHT

RSOC staff took advantage of an opportunity by using the newly acquired SOF-230 antenna system to provide hands-on / practical training on the value of resonant antennas.

Our instructors explained the operation of the L3Harris RF-5382H antenna coupler, used in conjunction with the SOF-230 antenna, and how a matching device like an antenna coupler can incur system losses.

A crossed dipole configuration can provide two resonant frequencies, with very little antenna interaction.

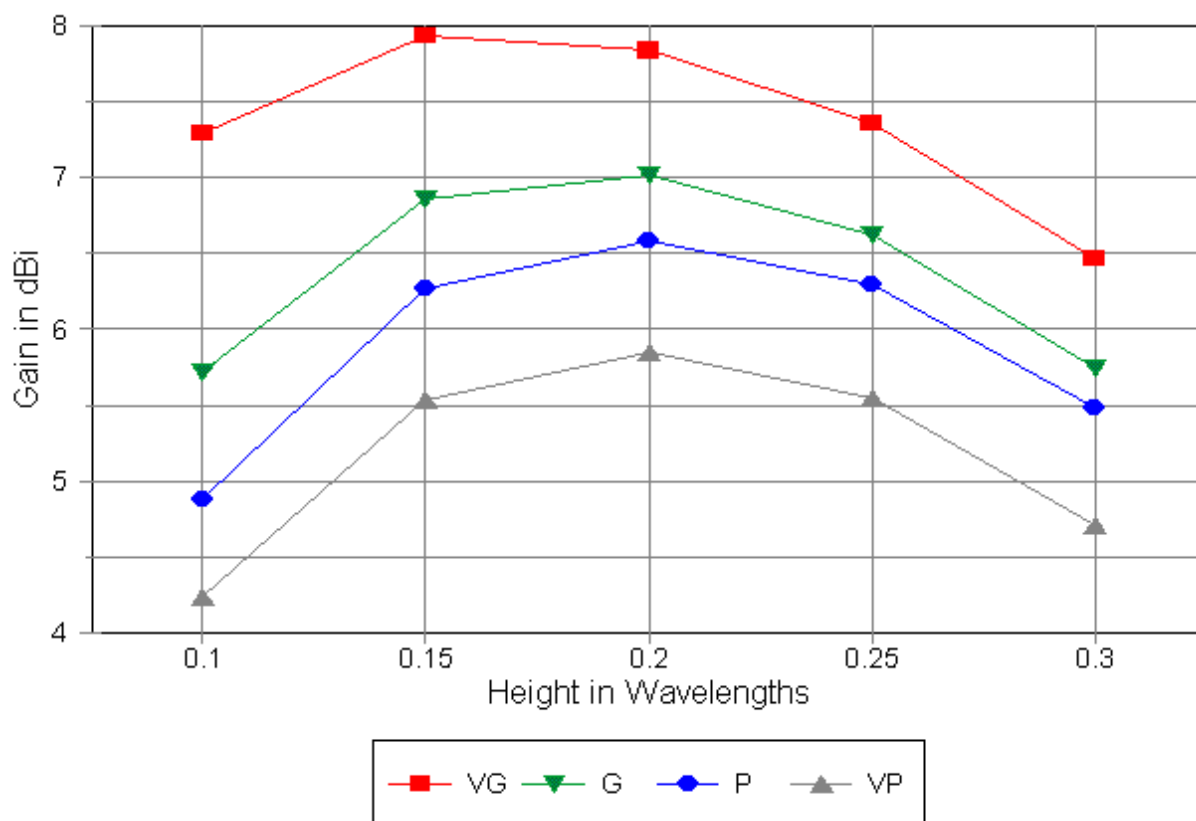
Using the fixed height, 10m mast, one can optimize Near Vertical Incidence Skywave (NVIS) performance by capitalizing on the resonant frequencies made available by the crossed dipoles.

A NVIS antenna exhibits fairly uniform gain, and a desirable antenna pattern, when operating at 0.15, 0.20 or 0.25 of the free space wavelengths at the design (resonant) frequency.

NVIS operation between 2 MHz and 8 MHz, and occasionally as high as 10 MHz, can be utilized in a high latitude location like Alaska, where the critical frequency (F_oF₂) rarely gets above 8 MHz, and only infrequently as high as 10 MHz, i.e. the practical upper limit for NVIS operation.

It is possible to calculate desirable operating frequencies given the parameters identified above.

1 WL Loop Gain: NVIS Height vs. Soil Type



NVIS GAIN IS FAIRLY UNIFORM FROM HEIGHTS OF 0.15 TO 0.25 OF THE FREE SPACE WAVELENGTHS

The chart (above) indicates antenna gain for various soil conditions and height above ground, measured in free space wavelengths. Using the formula:

$L \text{ ft} = 984 / F \text{ MHz}$ and knowing the fixed height of the mast is 32.8 feet, calculating the operating frequencies corresponding to 0.15, 0.20 and 0.25 of the free space wavelengths is straightforward. Solving the equation yields:

4.5 MHz = 0.15 wavelength at 32.8 feet

6.0 MHz = 0.20 wavelength at 32.8 feet

7.5 MHz = 0.25 wavelength at 32.8 feet

Our target frequencies for the two crossed dipoles were selected as 4.5 MHz and 6.0 MHz, both well within the NVIS operating range.

The SOF-230 antenna is deployed using “wire winders” that spool up / coil excess wire. At High Frequency (HF), insulated wire will act as a single conductor when in close physical proximity, for example when tightly wound on the SOF-230 spool / winder mechanism.

Using the dipole formula, $L \text{ ft} = 468 / F \text{ MHz}$, our instructors calculated how much wire should be spooled out, and how much wire should remain on the SOF-230 winders.

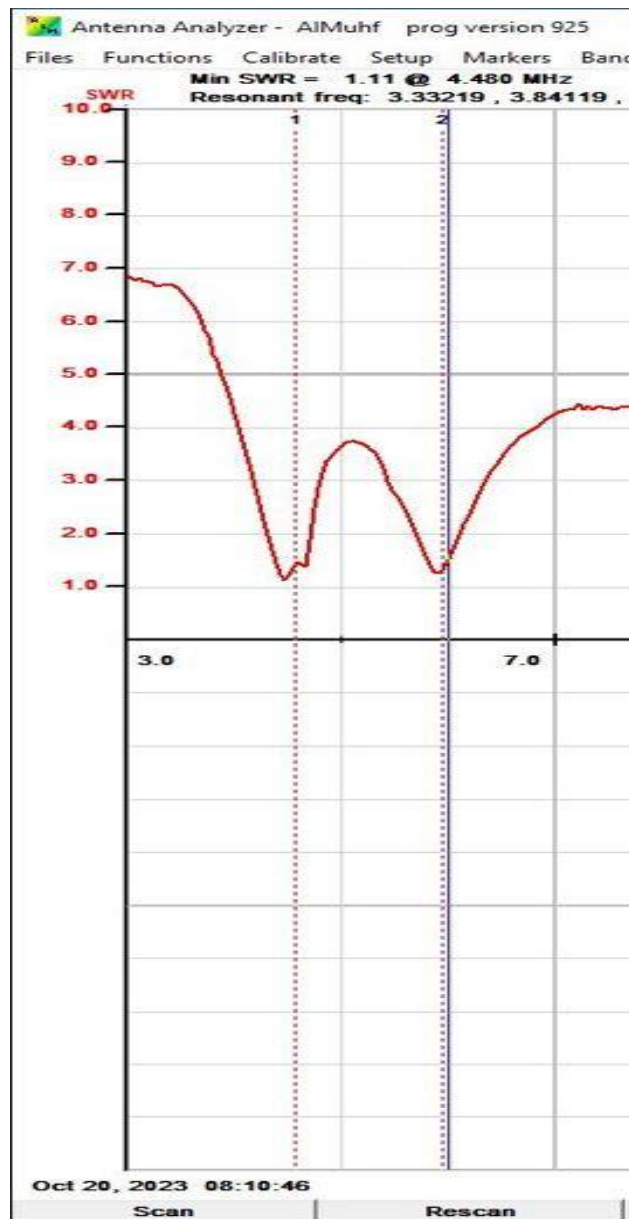


SOF-230 ANTENNA WINDER WITH SUFFICIENT WIRE DEPLOYED TO OPERATE ON 4.5 OR 6.0 MHz

Based on the dipole formula, the crossed dipoles for 4.5 MHz and 6.0 MHz used the correct amount of wire from the spool / winder mechanism to achieve resonance near the target operating frequencies.

As expected, the crossed dipoles exhibited little interaction, and it was possible to bring each antenna into resonance near the desired operating frequencies.

If deployed as described, using a proper crossed dipole configuration, the SOF-230 antenna can operate successfully on two frequencies without the use of a L3Harris RF-5382H antenna coupler.



SWR PLOT OF CROSSED DIPOLES AT 4.5 & 6.0 MHz, USING AIM-UHF ANTENNA ANALYZER DATA

The antenna analysis and proper construction technique, as explained during training, is not addressed in the C&S Antenna manual, which simply states the crossed dipole configuration should “Use entire length of all four wire elements” or in other words, use four wires, each 63’ long.

Following the instruction manual would not have produced the two resonant frequencies expected from a true crossed dipole system.

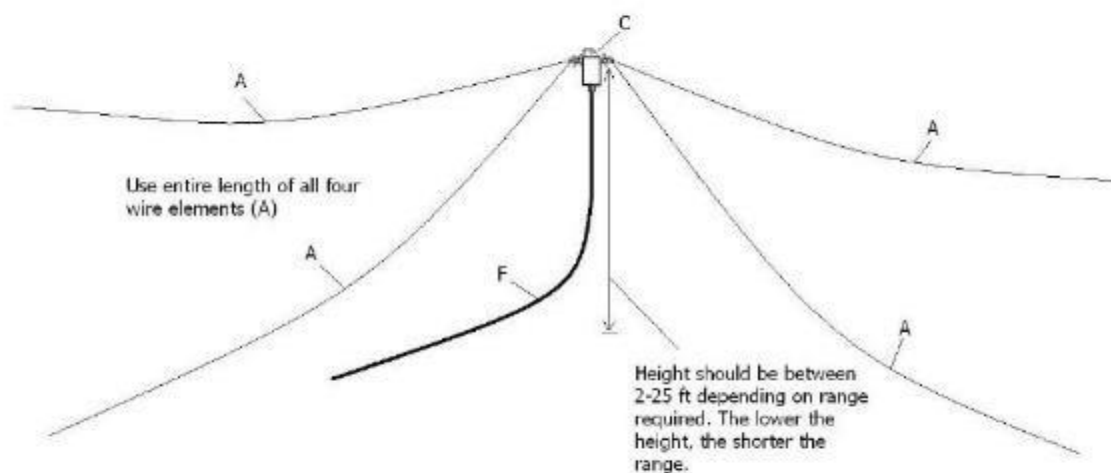
The C&S Antenna manual does acknowledge that “This antenna is simple to erect and provides the best short-range communications of all configurations” and we tend to agree, but only if properly configured, as outlined above.

Crossed Dipole

Configuration 8

SOF-230

Short/Medium range NVIS antenna requiring a single support point only. This antenna is simple to erect and provides the best short range communications of all configurations.



Parts required:-

4 Antenna wires	A
1 Center Junction	C
1 Feeder Cable	F
1 Cleat and cord	(Part of B)

Notes

The antenna wires (A) are used in this configuration and are spaced 90 degrees apart. The cleat, which is on the ground plane winder (B), is used to adjust the height of the antenna.

C&S ANTENNA MANUAL - CROSSED DIPOLE LAYOUT WAS ADJUSTED FOR IMPROVED PERFORMANCE



ROLACAGE / ROLATUBE SPOOL BASE, WITH L3HARRIS RF-5382H ANTENNA COUPLER (LEFT)

4. If your project involves training new hams, can you show numbers of people trained and outline the benefits for your trainees?

The RSOC hosts a weekly simplex radio net each Wednesday evening, called the South-Central Simplex Net (SCSN). As the name implies, operation is simplex only, and encourages operators to understand the value simplex operation can bring during an emergency.

All license classes are welcome; however, the net pays particular attention to new hams, offering advice and even trouble-shooting both over-the-air and at our facility.

This on-the-air radio experience is then leveraged to recruit both new and experienced operators to participate in a variety of Public Service events (see Question 7).

Our net operates on multiple bands and modes, and we track activity by week, by month, and year-over-year, to explore trends in participation.

The following table summarizes net involvement (per month) and compares Year-To-Date (YTD) with year-over-year activity from the prior year.

Note the increased participation in all but one band / mode category:

146.52 FM	+10.9%	
144.20 USB	+15.7%	
145.67 D-Star	+23.1%	
446.00 FM	+10.3%	
423.20 USB	+11.4%	
441.00 D-Star	+17.5%	
1294.50 FM	+40.2%	
1296.10 USB	+39.1%	
1294.30 D-Star	+36.4%	
223.50 FM	+12.3%	
52.525 FM	+16.2%	
50.125 USB	+16.1%	
29.600 FM	+9.5%	Note: General Class and higher
28.400 USB	+11.4%	
29.075 AM	+13.5%	Note: General Class and higher
27.035 CB	+12.9%	
927.50 FM	+34.2%	
PACKET RADIO	+62.5%	
APRS TEXT	-0.6%	

Growth in participation may be attributed, in part, to the accessibility of the net to new operators, and in part to the proliferation of multi-mode rigs available from ICOM and other manufacturers.

In our accounting, each band / mode contact is considered a separate a check-in, and during the current twelve-month grant reporting period (September-September) the net had a total of 12,585 check-ins.

An additional 3,212 check-ins occurred during October, November and December (which is outside the grant reporting period).

Net control is headquartered at our flagship facility in west Anchorage. The facility is configured with five (5) operating positions to support the SCSN and other HF nets. Radio operators are recruited from our ranks to staff these operating positions, and are supervised by Radio Watch Officers. This environment provides ample opportunities for improving skills and sets a high bar for operator performance.

5. For projects involving equipment purchases, can you show completed purchases? What do you have yet to purchase? What roadblocks are you encountering?

Under this grant, we do not have any projects involving equipment purchases.

The AARC Board of Directors has specifically chosen to use club funds only in support of the continued operation of the RSOC facility, for example, to pay the rent, insurance, electricity, heating, maintenance and related expenses.

At present, we require radio, antenna and other capital projects to be funded out-of-pocket by the project managers who wish to improve the operational characteristics of the facility. Often several individuals will team up to cover these out-of-pocket expenses.

6. Where do you feel you are in your project? Is this an ongoing program or one time purchase? Can you show a timeline for your project milestones and accomplishments?

This grant was a one-time program, to be used as a bridge to future funding streams, while supporting continued operation of our facility.

7. Can you give examples of how your project has impacted the amateur community and the public around you for the better? Try to be specific on positive impacts and achievements.

The AARC supports many Public Service events, some going back more than 25 years. Volunteer participation during the 2023 summer season includes:

Walk For Hope	2023-05-06
MS Walk at Lake Hood	2023-05-06
Women's Gold Nugget Triathlon	2023-05-21
Alaska Run for Women	2023-06-10
Friends of Pets Dog Jog	2023-07-22
Anchorage Runfest	2023-08-20

For these events we establish a no cost communications infrastructure, staffed entirely by radio volunteers, supporting various checkpoints, water drops, medical facilities and headquarters locations, while also providing general route surveillance and dispatch capability using bicycle mobile stations.

These events provide an opportunity for training and are conducted under the banner of Amateur Radio Emergency Service (ARES). Participation in these events is an excellent training opportunity for the amateur community, and the sponsors of the events are universal in expressing their thanks, gratitude and appreciation of our effort.

8. Please share any major barriers or difficulties in your project and how you have or plan to overcome them.

As you might imagine, an all-volunteer, non-profit enterprise funding a world-class radio facility is a difficult challenge. It is roughly the equivalent of maintaining a 7,600 SF home, with a four-car garage, on 1.9 acres of land, and having a well and septic.

At present, we have no secure funding sources, but we have established a legacy donor program that has received two Qualified Charitable Distributions (QCD) from individuals.

These donations are invested and the income is re-invested to grow the principle. Our goal is a fully funded donor account that provides sufficient monthly income to support our facility.

We have issued one, in a series of several planned AARC / RSOC "challenge coins" that have sold well and at present, all coins in the inaugural run have sold out, with many at the premium price of \$100.

We obtained a RAVN Airlines flight voucher that was donated by one of our members and we raffled off the voucher to raise funds. As a State of Alaska Charitable Gaming Permit holder, we can conduct on-line or traditional ticket raffles and are getting the process established with the flight voucher as our first example.

We have sold radios and other equipment, surplus to our needs, on eBay and via direct sales. Our organization often receives donations of equipment, antennas, tower sections, coax and other items from club members, the community, and their families.

As a public service, we assist families who may have a Silent Key by helping them establish fair market value for estate items, and in facilitating direct sales. Often the family simply donates the equipment.

We have acquired an Alaska Business License to operate "RSOC Services" as a consulting firm, separate from our non-profit 501(c)3 activity. We have established our presence on SAM.gov, which enabled us to register as a vendor with the Department of Veterans Affairs (DVA). We have provided them with consulting and general services that produced billable hours.

9. What steps have you taken or planned to take to work with ARRL to promote your project and the benefits you are achieving via the Club Grant Program?

We are including this report as a blog post on our website. Posting a blog to our website automatically pushes the content to Facebook and X (formerly Twitter). At present, we have not taken any specific steps to work directly with ARRL to promote our project and the benefits achieved through the Club Grant Program.

Thank you for providing this update to allow the ARRL Foundation to demonstrate the impact of Amateur Radio to your community. If you have any questions regarding this final update, please feel free to reach out to Mike Walters, W8ZY or Mimi Guerrat KC1TJW at the emails below.

mwalters@arrl.org

mguerrat@arrl.org

Board Meeting Minutes

Board Meeting May 16, 2023

ANCHORAGE AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

BOARD MEETING

May 16, 2023

Radio Science and Operations Center (RSOC)

6721 Raspberry Road

Anchorage, AK

APPROVED

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM by President Richard Tweet KL2AZ. A quorum was established.

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT IN PERSON:

Richard Tweet KL2AZ, Kent Petty KL5T, Wigi Tozzi KL0R, Walter Yankauskas KL7WY

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT VIA VIDEOCONFERENCE (ZOOM):

Lara Baker AL2R, TJ Sheffield KL7TS, Riley Petty KL4RP, John Lime KL4OF, Matthieu Ostrander KL4QH, Mathew Notte WL4DX

EXCUSED BOARD MEMBERS:

Keith Clark KL7MM, Dave Webb N9AIG

UNEXCUSED BOARD MEMBERS:

Kevin Opalka KL1V

REQUEST FOR AGENDA ITEMS

None

VISITORS:

None

TIME CRITICAL ITEM(S):

None

REPORTS:

SECRETARY REPORT

Richard Tweet KL2AZ provided the April 2023 AARC Board meeting minutes and the May 2023 Membership meeting minutes for review. Motion made Keith Clark KL7MM, seconded by Lara Baker AL2R to approve the minutes as presented with minor corrections. With no objections, the motion passed.

TREASURER REPORT

Kent Petty KL5T referred to the emailed report to the Board prior to the meeting. Kent noted prior that all bills are paid/current and reported on income from equipment sales, KL7AA Challenge Coin sales, and the RAVN raffle (which resulted in \$530 deposited to the gaming account). Discussion noted Grubstake balance and SBA EIDL loan repayment schedule.

FINANCE COMMITTEE

Keith Clark KL7MM referred to the emailed report. There were no questions.

GRANT REQUESTS

There have been no incoming grant requests.

GAMING COMMITTEE

Nothing to report.

BYLAWS COMMITTEE

Richard Tweet KL2AZ noted this would be covered under the Development Committee report.

TRUSTEE REPORT

Keith Clark noted the KL7AA call would be used for the upcoming Armed Forces Day Crossband Test and possibly for the Gold Nugget Triathlon. Dave Webb N9AIG reported that there has been no request for use of the KL7G callsign.

PROJECTS COMMITTEE

It was noted the replacement MESH dish to be installed at the Airport Fire Station #2 can be pre-assembled prior to the site visit to install it. TJ Sheffield KL7TS reported that one ACOM amp is functional, and the 2nd is on the bench waiting on a response from Array Solutions as to some reading out of spec. Summer projects include restacking the 'boneyard' which includes removal, installing geo-tech material and then restacking the materials and bucket truck work including towers and masts. A brief discussion was held regarding the security camera upgrade project.

DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

TJ Sheffield KL7TS reported on the Bylaws Committee and Rules of Procedure work to date and upcoming Committee work to get these as a finished product. Kent Petty KL5T reported on the drawing to finalize the RAVN travel voucher raffle. This was done online, with Board members in attendance, on a recoded Zoom call and satisfied all State requirements.

MEMBERSHIP REPORT

Kent Petty KL5T reported he is continuing to work on the AARC Life Members list and with incorporation of the Life Members to date, it has brought the AARC membership up to almost 260. Kent noted the ability for all to review the life member roster online and provide updates for those needing information. Kent noted he is updating the Life Member list to include Life Member number assignments to those that were not issued one.

EDUCATION COMMITTEE

Kent Petty KL5T reported has completed a community presentation promoting services available to the general public. The presentation includes MURS/GMRS/FRS/Amateur radio capabilities and may be a good presentation to Community Council meetings.

EQUIPMENT REPORT

TJ Sheffield KL7TS reported on RSOC ACOM amps. TJ also reported on the need to inventory equipment to be included in continued sales of surplus gear. Discussion noted that description, photos, and weights are extremely helpful in preparing to list the items and it also assists with shipping. A folder has been set up on the shared Google drive to provide this information. Discussion noted items of value in the north 'boneyard' including tower sections and aluminum tubing.

EMCOMM

Kent Petty KL5T noted the Senior Center appears to be a very noisy location which may not be conducive to HF operation for that station. TJ Sheffield KL7TS reported on the Armed Forces Day Crossband Test and stations worked included Fort Huachuca, AZ, Camp Foster in Okinawa, USS Iowa in Los Angeles, USS Midway in San Diego, USS LST-325 in Evansville, IN, US Naval Academy (CW) in Annapolis, MD, USCG in Alameda, CA, US Naval Air Station in Whidbey Island, WA, and partial copy on the CW message from the Secretary of Defense. Discussion noted making the 16-page 6-month report to the ARRLF available and published as requested by the ARRLF.

VEC PROGRAM

Kent Petty KL5T, AARC VEC Program Chairman, reported the program is going well and noted an in-person session to be held at the RSOC on May 24th. Kent noted the program continues to get new VE's and also continues with online testing 6 days per week.

PUBLIC SERVICE EVENTS

Discussion again noted known events for this year include the Hope Community Resources Walk for Hope, MS Walk around Lake Hood, The Anchorage Runfest, Dog Jog, Gold Nugget Triathlon, Alaska Run for Women, and the need for volunteers. Kevin Opalka KL1V reported that due to a work schedule change, he would not be able to champion Field Day this year.

OLD BUSINESS

01. AARC Newsletter – Kent Petty KL5T noted that a volunteer is available to provide 3 hours per month to publish an AARC newsletter.
02. Grubstake repeater status – Waiting for a call from Arcticom re: site access.
03. 220 repeater status. On bench at RSOC, tested, and ready for installation.
04. ARDC/ARRL grant updates – Two grant applications are being considered by the Development Committee. One for an RSOC equipment upgrade and the second for a First Mile system for emergency operations. The next deadline for applications is June 30th.
05. Legislative Aide update – Nothing new to report
06. Donated RAVN voucher. Kent Petty KL5T reported that the winner was a very enthusiastic Dutch Harbor resident and the raffle raised \$530.
07. AARC being a vendor for radio products – Nothing new to report.
08. Policy Update – Kent Petty KL5T. Two draft proposed policies were introduced for review and have been referred to the Development Committee.
09. AARC Challenge Coins. Kent Petty KL5T reported that the initial premium sales have generated about \$2500 and now the remaining coins will be available in the remaining sequence at \$20 each with no numbering preference.

NEW BUSINESS

01. Field Day – Discussed previously under Public Service Events
02. RSOC Masking policy – Discussion noted the masking policy will be finalized by the Development Committee.
03. Internet connectivity from RSOC – Discussion noted very poor from RSOC per polling of participants.
04. June Membership meeting – No speaker scheduled.

05. Keith Clark KL7MM noted the public meeting scheduled for May 30th at the Lakefront Hotel regarding the Northlink Aviation project from 6-7:30pm.

ADJOURNMENT The meeting adjourned at 8:15pm.

Respectfully submitted as recorded on 05/16/2023 by Richard Tweet KL2AZ, AARC President

Board Meeting June 20, 2023

ANCHORAGE AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

BOARD MEETING

June 20, 2023

Radio Science and Operations Center (RSOC)

6721 Raspberry Road

Anchorage, AK

APPROVED

The meeting was called to order at 7:01 PM by President Richard Tweet KL2AZ. A quorum was established.

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT IN PERSON:

Richard Tweet KL2AZ, Kent Petty KL5T, Wigi Tozzi KL0R, Walter Yankauskas KL7WY.

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT VIA VIDEOCONFERENCE (ZOOM):

Lara Baker AL2R, TJ Sheffield KL7TS, Riley Petty KL4RP, John Lime KL4OF, Matthieu Ostrander KL4QH, Mathew Notte WL4DX.

EXCUSED BOARD MEMBERS:

Keith Clark KL7MM, Dave Webb N9AIG.

UNEXCUSED BOARD MEMBERS:

Kevin Opalka KL1V

REQUEST FOR AGENDA ITEMS

None

VISITORS:

None

TIME CRITICAL ITEM(S):

None

REPORTS:

SECRETARY REPORT

Richard Tweet KL2AZ provided the May 2023 AARC Board meeting minutes and the June 2023 Membership meeting minutes for review. Motion made Lara Baker AL2R, seconded by Kent Petty KL5T to approve the minutes as presented with minor corrections. With no objections, the motion passed.

TREASURER REPORT

Kent Petty KL5T referred to the emailed reports to the Board prior to the meeting. Kent reported on account balances. A brief discussion was held on endowment classification.

FINANCE COMMITTEE

As Keith Clark KL7MM was excused the Board was referred to the emailed report.

GRANT REQUESTS

There have been no incoming grant requests.

GAMING COMMITTEE

A brief discussion was held on gaming income reporting requirements (re: RAVN raffle)

BYLAWS COMMITTEE

Richard Tweet KL2AZ noted this would be covered under the Development Committee report.

TRUSTEE REPORT

Nothing to report.

PROJECTS COMMITTEE

TJ Sheffield KL7TS reported that legacy FCC abandoned cable leaving the facility to the north has been exposed and documented, John Deere mower has been serviced, Kent Petty KL5T improved access along the West fence exterior with his tractor. Matthieu Ostrander KL4QH has installed new Cat6 cable for camera placement on the tower and noted plans for the NW camera and new camera installations, and discussion was held on use of a bucket/aerial lift for projects and possible use of the existing ASCO automatic transfer switch (ATS).

DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

TJ Sheffield KL7TS reported on Bylaws and Rules of Procedure work to date, SBA EIDL, restitution update including civil suit research, endowment, Newsletter publishing schedule planned for the 1st of each month, ARDC Grant video conference to be held on July 19th, Grubstake documentation,

aerial lift reach requirements, Murry mower requires an oil change, RAVN raffle quarterly report to be done as a 2nd quarter report, Field Day has no champion so it will be a regular RSOC maintenance day, AK Emergency Frequency Test, generator evaluation, RF exposure calculations, KICY hardline, projects including; asphalt crack weeds, floor drain clearing, bay 1 unit heater, and heat trace indicators. Discussion was held on FEMA Region 10 meeting, and gaming reporting requirements.

MEMBERSHIP REPORT

Kent Petty KL5T reported that club membership is now at 261 with 154 lifetime members and 173 eligible voters.

EDUCATION COMMITTEE

Kent Petty KL5T reported on his completed community presentation promoting services available to the general public is ready for use and noted an upcoming free Tech/General license prep class.

EQUIPMENT REPORT

TJ Sheffield KL7TS reported on a SGC 2000 all band marine HF radio with FSK demodulator and smart tuner donation, ICOM handheld frequency list, label maker tape shortage, ACOM amps are both operational, Rohn 45 tower equipment interest. Brief discussion was held on security camera installation plans and UPS test during ATS research.

EMCOMM

Kent Petty KL5T reported on the emergency first mile email server project, Juneau SHARES operator request, ANTHC SHARES interest with North Slope fiber cut issue.

VEC PROGRAM

Kent Petty KL5T, AARC VEC Program Chairman, reported the program is going well with 344 sessions year to date, 118 VE's currently, upcoming in-person session in Nikiski on July 8th, Minnesota interest with in-person testing under KL7AA.

PUBLIC SERVICE EVENTS

Walter Yankauskas KL7WY reported that there were no incidents reported during the Alaska Run for Women and that the event had 3500 participants. Kent Petty KL5T requested reports from the KL7AA coordinators for these events so they can be published. TJ Sheffield KL7TS reported on the upcoming Dog Jog and an upcoming cross band systems test from the Kincaid Chalet for the Anchorage Runfest event in August.

OLD BUSINESS

01. AARC Newsletter – Kent Petty KL5T noted the newsletter is scheduled to be published on the 1st of each month. Kent requested articles from project managers and interested members of the Board.
02. Grubstake/220 repeater status – Waiting for a call from Arcticom re: Grubstake site access. 220 repeater is ready for installation.
03. ARDC/ARRL grant updates – Refer to Treasurers report and discussion noted 12-month operation expenditures are running higher this year.
04. Legislative Aide update – Nothing new to report
05. AARC being a vendor for radio products – Referred to Development Committee.
06. Policy Update – Referred to Development Committee.
07. AARC Challenge Coins. Kent Petty KL5T reported on sales.
08. RSOC Masking Policy. RSOC Masking policy – Masking is no longer required as of 6/1. New signage will replace existing signage.

NEW BUSINESS

01. Board Vacancy – Mathew Notte withdrew his offer to resign thereby negating a potential vacancy on the Board. Walter Yankauskas KL7WY resigned his Board position on this date. Motion made Kent Petty KL5T, seconded by TJ Sheffield KL7TS to accept the resignation of Walter Yankauskas KL7WY. With no opposition the motion passed.

Kent Petty KL5T nominated Dr. Rebecca Weicht to the newly vacated position. Motion made Lara Baker AL2R, seconded by TJ Sheffield KL7TS to accept the nomination. With no opposition the motion passed. This nomination will be presented to the membership for approval at the next membership meeting.

02. Field Day – As Field Day has no champion, it will be a regular RSOC maintenance day with generator testing and possible minimal Field Day operation.
03. KL7AA webpage advertising. Discussion noted this was generating \$360 income to the club. President Richard Tweet KL2AZ offered \$360 to eliminate the advertising.

04. July Membership meeting – AARC Board agreed unanimously to follow tradition with no membership meeting to be held in July.

05. August membership meeting. The AARC will return to in-person meetings with the August 3rd Membership meeting. Discussion noted the need for RSOC setup, teardown, and cleaning.

ADJOURNMENT The meeting adjourned at 8:25pm.

Respectfully submitted as recorded on 06/20/2023 by Richard Tweet KL2AZ, AARC President

Board Meeting July 18, 2023

ANCHORAGE AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

BOARD MEETING

July 18, 2023

Radio Science and Operations Center (RSOC)

6721 Raspberry Road

Anchorage, AK

APPROVED

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM by President Richard Tweet KL2AZ. A quorum was established.

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT IN PERSON:

Richard Tweet KL2AZ, Kent Petty KL5T, Keith Clark KL7MM

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT VIA VIDEOCONFERENCE (ZOOM):

AARC Vision - An inclusive community of engaged, trained, and prepared emergency communication volunteers

Lara Baker AL2R, TJ Sheffield KL7TS, Riley Petty KL4RP, John Lime KL4OF, Matthieu Ostrander KL4QH.

EXCUSED BOARD MEMBERS:

Wigi Tozzi KL0R, Dave Webb N9AIG, Kevin Opalka KL1V

UNEXCUSED BOARD MEMBERS:

Mathew Notte WL4DX

REQUEST FOR AGENDA ITEMS

None

VISITORS:

Dr. Rebecca Weicht – Nominee for open Board seat.

TIME CRITICAL ITEM(S):

None

REPORTS:

SECRETARY REPORT

Richard Tweet KL2AZ provided the June 2023 AARC Board meeting minutes meeting minutes for review. Motion made Lara Baker AL2R, seconded by Keith Clark KL7MM to approve the minutes as presented with minor corrections. With no objections, the motion passed.

TREASURER REPORT

AARC Vision - An inclusive community of engaged, trained, and prepared emergency communication volunteers

Kent Petty KL5T referred to the emailed reports to the Board prior to the meeting. Kent reported on account balances including I Bond performance and Endowment status. A brief discussion noted I Bonds/Endowment and Training (e.g., Air Force) should all be classed as interest bearing accounts, and the next ARRL Grant period closes in September.

FINANCE COMMITTEE

Keith Clark KL7MM referred to the emailed Committee report for review. There were no questions.

GRANT REQUESTS

There have been no incoming grant requests.

GAMING COMMITTEE

Nothing to discuss. Referenced in Finance Committee report.

BYLAWS COMMITTEE

Richard Tweet KL2AZ noted this would be covered under the Development Committee report.

TRUSTEE REPORT

KL7AA was used during the 2023 Field Day event.

PROJECTS COMMITTEE

TJ Sheffield KL7TS reported on status of the SHARES NVIS prototype antenna project, RSOC Bay 1 unit heater limit switch replacement (still on order), groundskeeping and mowing, facility maintenance including downspout cleaning, and satellite station coax replacement. Matthieu Ostrander KL4QH reported on CCTV Camera placement.

DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

TJ Sheffield KL7TS reported on the need to aggregate records at the RSOC to one location from three, Grubstake documentation, KeePass recordkeeping, ARDC grant applications (e.g., First Mile communications), Alaska Airman's radio museum, Community Amateur Radio presentation, Bylaws update status, Public Service events, the South-Central Simplex Net, and RSOC Watch Officer Concept. Kent Petty KL5T reported on his Community presentation to the Joint Medical Emergency Preparedness Group (JMEPG) with piqued interest after the recent Sand Point earthquake.

MEMBERSHIP REPORT

Kent Petty KL5T reported that club membership is now at 266 with 155 lifetime members. Discussion noted past practice of applicants for life membership being voted on by the membership and that the practice has lapsed. Kent proposed to research back to the last membership approval and present a current list of life members to the membership for approval at the August Membership meeting. Motion made Lara Baker AL2R, seconded by Keith Clark KL7MM to approve the proposed procedure. After discussion on the motion, it passed with no objections.

EDUCATION COMMITTEE

Kent Petty KL5T reported on the recent free Tech/General license prep class that was held online.

EQUIPMENT REPORT

TJ Sheffield KL7TS reported on a recently donated Collins radio and noted discussion with aviation museum to incorporate a radio display. Discussion was held on the Heathkit equipment currently owned by KL7AA and that there may be an interest by KL7AA members to own some Heathkit equipment.

EMCOMM

TJ Sheffield reported on manning the RSOC after notification of the recent Sand Point earthquake and subsequent tsunami alerts. The quake occurred at 2249, TJ got notification at 2300 and was operational at 2321. Stations active were located in Homer, Seward, Kodiak, and Wasilla. TJ noted there were 5 tsunami messages ranging from warnings to advisory and then cancellation. Discussion noted a future practice would be to send an activation report to the State E.O.C.

Additional discussion noted encryption is available for Pactor 4 modems used for SHARES traffic and pricing and license requirements are being researched. It was noted that the Rescue Coordination Center does not use HF for communications and suggested the US Coast Guard might.

VEC PROGRAM

Kent Petty KL5T, AARC VEC Program Chairman, reported the program is seeing a normal seasonal slowdown, common across all testing organizations. Online testing is still occurring 2 times a day, 6 days per week with occasional in-person testing occurring when requested. Kent noted a need for additional VE's in the Kenai area for in-person testing.

PUBLIC SERVICE EVENTS

TJ Sheffield KL7TS reported on the upcoming Dog Jog and an upcoming cross band systems test from the Kincaid Chalet for the Anchorage Runfest event in August. Both TJ and Keith Clark KL7MM reported on volunteers to date for the events.

OLD BUSINESS

01. AARC Newsletter – Kent Petty KL5T noted the newsletter is scheduled to be published on the 1st of each month. Kent requested articles from project managers and interested members of the Board.
02. Grubstake/220 repeater status – Waiting for a call from Arcticom re: Grubstake site access. 220 repeater is ready for installation.
03. ARDC/ARRL grant updates – Next grant application period ends September 30th.

NEW BUSINESS

01. August membership meeting. The AARC will return to in-person meetings with the August 3rd Membership meeting. No speaker has been determined to date.
02. Lara Baker AL2R reported that Lil Marvin KL7YF had contacted him to discuss the AARC possibly taking over repeater control on the KL7ION repeater. This was referred to the Development Committee.

ADJOURNMENT The meeting adjourned at 7:50pm.

Respectfully submitted as recorded on 07/18/2023 by Richard Tweet KL2AZ, AARC President

Board Meeting August 15, 2023

ANCHORAGE AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

BOARD MEETING

August 15, 2023

Radio Science and Operations Center (RSOC)

6721 Raspberry Road

Anchorage, AK

APPROVED

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM by President Richard Tweet KL2AZ. A quorum was established. A moment of silence was observed for Past President Lara Baker AL2R.

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT IN PERSON:

Richard Tweet KL2AZ, Keith Clark KL7MM

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT VIA VIDEOCONFERENCE (ZOOM):

TJ Sheffield KL7TS, Kent Petty KL5T, Riley Petty KL4RP, Matthieu Ostrander KL4QH, Dave Webb N9AIG, Mathew Notte WL4DX, Dr. Rebecca Weicht, Wigi Tozzi KL0R

EXCUSED BOARD MEMBERS:

John Lime KL4OF, Kevin Opalka KL1V

UNEXCUSED BOARD MEMBERS:

None

REQUEST FOR AGENDA ITEMS

Donations made in memory of Silent Keys. Kent Petty KL5T

VISITORS:

None

TIME CRITICAL ITEM(S):

None

REPORTS:

SECRETARY REPORT

Richard Tweet KL2AZ provided the July 2023 AARC Board meeting minutes and August 2023 Membership meeting minutes for review. Motion made Keith Clark KL7MM, seconded by Kent Petty KL5T to approve the minutes as presented with minor corrections. With no objections, the motion passed.

TREASURER REPORT

Kent Petty KL5T referred to the emailed reports to the Board prior to the meeting. Kent reported on AARC accounts.

FINANCE COMMITTEE

Keith Clark KL7MM referred to the emailed Committee report for review. Discussion noted the possibility for a grant partnership with the latest announced DHS grant availability, this will be researched to see if the AARC can participate.

GRANT REQUESTS

There have been no incoming grant requests.

GAMING COMMITTEE

It was noted that we need an alternate Gaming Member(s) with the passing of AL2R. Mathew Notte WL4DX volunteered to obtain credentials to fill the position.

BYLAWS COMMITTEE

Richard Tweet KL2AZ noted the Bylaws update is complete and will be presented to the membership at the September and October Membership meetings.

TRUSTEE REPORT

Keith Clark KL7MM reported that KL7AA is used during Public Service events including the Anchorage Runfest and Field Day.

PROJECTS COMMITTEE

TJ Sheffield KL7TS noted the Alaska season of June, July, August, Winter, and projects completed include exposing and isolating FCC legacy cables entering the RSOC, the Northwest and Northeast fence lines have been cleared with better accessibility. Additional work to be completed includes repairs to the Northeast mast and Bay 1 unit heater limit switch replacement. TJ noted the portable SHARES antenna parts are in and that the drilling crew has completed the monitoring well installations outside of the AARC lease area.

DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

TJ Sheffield KL7TS reported on possible future SHARES operation by the Alaska Clean Seas group, a possible new contact with RAVN to continue research into using a portion of their antenna system, interest by Providence Hospital to participate in quarterly exercises.

Kent Petty KL5T reported on Starlink performance and his upcoming presentation to the ANTHC health organization.

MEMBERSHIP REPORT

Kent Petty KL5T reported that club membership is now at 256. A procedure for recognizing and approving AARC Life members approved by the Board in the July Board meeting has been referred back to the Development Committee.

EDUCATION COMMITTEE

Kent Petty KL5T reported on upcoming USAF training in October and participation following the training in the Noble Skywave exercise.

EQUIPMENT REPORT

TJ Sheffield KL7TS reported on a recently donated 2-meter amplifier and excess equipment in the RSOC, the need to clear bay 2 in the garage for access, RSOC Operations area reconfiguration at the North Central location and testing and programming the Alaska Regional and ANMC HF radios.

EMCOMM

Kent Petty KL5T reported on the ANMC TS-480 radio swap, programming, and testing. Kent also reported on an upcoming presentation to the ANTHC, operational status of the State EOC. 2 licensed encryption packages have been purchased for the Pactor 4 modems. Kent noted that he is badged and credentialed for access to the State EOC.

VEC PROGRAM

Kent Petty KL5T, AARC VEC Program Chairman, reported the program continues to see a normal seasonal slowdown, common across all testing organizations. Online testing is still occurring with occasional in-person testing occurring when requested. Kent noted the FCC website had been offline but is now operational.

PUBLIC SERVICE EVENTS

TJ Sheffield KL7TS reported on the recent Dog Jog event and thanked Dave Webb N9AIG and his wife Joy for deployment of the portable AARC repeater. It was noted that there were more 1-mile users than years prior.

Keith Clark KL7MM reported that all volunteer positions have been staffed for the upcoming Alaska Runfest and that Cozette Green KL4RL will be Net Control.

OLD BUSINESS

01. AARC Newsletter – Nothing new to report
02. Grubstake/220 repeater status – Waiting for a call from Arcticom re: Grubstake site access. 220 repeater is ready for installation. A brief discussion was held on the viability of Grubstake.
03. KL7ION repeater status. Nothing new to report
04. ARDC/ARRL grant updates – Discussion was held on reporting requirement for the previous grant received. Kent Petty KL5T reported that he has submitted a grant request to develop a first mile prototype for emergency communications and is awaiting approval as the application is currently in review status.

NEW BUSINESS

01. Board review/approval of AARC Bylaws update. The Development Committee reported that the update to the AARC bylaws is complete and submits them to the Board for review/approval. Motion made Keith Clark KL7MM, seconded by Mathew Notte WL4DX to approve the bylaws as presented. With no objection, the motion passed, and the approved bylaws will be presented to the membership at the September Membership meeting for introduction and for approval at the October Membership meeting. Kent Petty KL5T thanked TJ Sheffield KL7TS for his leadership during the process of developing the updated bylaws.
02. Life Membership roster approval. As mentioned in the Membership report, this has been referred back to the Development Committee.
03. Waive term limits for Vice President and Treasurer for this election. Motion Made Keith Clark, seconded by Mathew Notte WL4DX to waive the term limits for the Vice President and Treasurer. With no objections, this motion passed.
04. Slate of candidates for election. The slate of Vice President – TJ Sheffield KL7TS, Treasurer – Kent Petty KL5T was presented for approval to the Board. Motion Made Keith Clark, seconded by Mathew Notte WL4DX to approve the presented slate. With no objections, this motion passed.
05. Secretary position vacancy. This position became vacant with Lara Baker AL2R's passing.
06. Donations made in memory of Silent Keys. Motion made by Kent Petty KL5T with a second and friendly amendment by Mathieu Ostrander KL4QH that donations made to the AARC in lieu of flowers, etc. for a silent key or donations made on behalf of an estate shall be placed in the Endowment Fund. With no objections, this motion passed.

ADJOURNMENT The meeting adjourned at 8:23pm.

Respectfully submitted as recorded on 08/15/2023 by Richard Tweet KL2AZ, AARC President

Special Board Meeting August 23, 2023

ANCHORAGE AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

SPECIAL BOARD MEETING

August 22, 2023

Radio Science and Operations Center (RSOC)

6721 Raspberry Road

Anchorage, AK

APPROVED

The Zoom meeting was called to order at 7:12 PM by President Richard Tweet KL2AZ. A quorum was established.

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT VIA VIDEOCONFERENCE (ZOOM):

Richard Tweet KL2AZ, Kent Petty KL5T, Riley Petty KL4RP, Dave Webb N9AIG, Mathew Notte WL4DX, John Lime KL4OF, Keith Clark KL7MM.

BUSINESS:

Revised Slate of Candidates for the AARC Election. The following candidates are presented as the AARC Board slate:

Vice President – TJ Sheffield KL7TS

Treasurer – Kent Petty KL5T

Director – Dave Webb N9AIG

Director – Wigi Tozzi KL0R

Motion made Keith Clark KL7MM, seconded by Mathew Notte WL4DX to accept the slate as presented. With no objection, the motion passed.

ADJOURNMENT The meeting adjourned at 7:14pm.

Respectfully submitted as recorded on 08/22/2023 by Richard Tweet KL2AZ, AARC President

Board Meeting September 19, 2023

ANCHORAGE AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

BOARD MEETING

September 19, 2023

Radio Science and Operations Center (RSOC)

6721 Raspberry Road

Anchorage, AK

APPROVED

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM by President Richard Tweet KL2AZ. A quorum was established.

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT IN PERSON:

Richard Tweet KL2AZ

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT VIA VIDEOCONFERENCE (ZOOM) or PHONE:

TJ Sheffield KL7TS, Kent Petty KL5T, John Lime KL4OF, Keith Clark KL7MM, Matthieu Ostrander KL4QH, Dave Webb N9AIG, Mathew Notte WL4DX, Dr. Rebecca Weicht

EXCUSED BOARD MEMBERS:

Riley Petty KL4RP, Kevin Opalka KL1V, Wigi Tozzi KL0R

UNEXCUSED BOARD MEMBERS:

None

REQUEST FOR AGENDA ITEMS

None

VISITORS:

None

TIME CRITICAL ITEM(S):

None

REPORTS:

SECRETARY REPORT

Richard Tweet KL2AZ provided the August 15, 2023 AARC Board meeting minutes and August 22, 2023 Special AARC Board meeting minutes and September 2023 Membership meeting minutes for review. Motion made Keith Clark KL7MM, seconded by TJ Sheffield KL7TS to approve the minutes as presented with minor corrections. With no objections, the motion passed.

TREASURER REPORT

Kent Petty KL5T reported on and referred to the emailed reports to the Board prior to the meeting. There was no discussion.

FINANCE COMMITTEE

Keith Clark KL7MM reported on and referred to the emailed Committee report for review. There was no discussion.

GRANT REQUESTS

There have been no incoming grant requests.

GAMING COMMITTEE

No gaming news to report.

BYLAWS COMMITTEE

Richard Tweet KL2AZ noted the Bylaws update is complete and will be presented to the membership at the October Membership meeting for approval.

TRUSTEE REPORT

Keith Clark KL7MM reported that KL7AA is complete with Public Service events for the year and required log entries will be done. Dave Webb N9AIG reported no use of the KL7G callsign. TJ Sheffield KL7TS noted that Kent Petty KL5T had done lots of work on specialty callsigns and their trustees (e.g., KL7SAR, KL7EOC, WL7CVG).

PROJECTS COMMITTEE

TJ Sheffield KL7TS reported on work by airport facility maintenance for the RSOC scheduled by the Airport, repairs to Bay 1 unit heater, fan timer replacement in RSOC ladies restroom, SHARES portable antenna work with N9AIG, prep for USAF communications training, AARC site mowing on average takes 6 hours, prep for winter shoveling and plowing.

DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

TJ Sheffield KL7TS reported on, and discussion included, the last AARC Development/Finance meeting including EIDL loan repayment schedule, RSOC liability insurance, AARC Endowment Fund, Grubstake site work to date, Gold Nugget Triathlon and Alaska Run for Women need for champion, upcoming ARRL Section Manager election, South Central Simplex Net streamlining, discussion on Trustees, ANMC and VA site visits, upcoming USAF training, Grubstake – stay or

leave, RSOC basement storage use, trailer maintenance, Weatherport use vs. replacement with something more suitable.

MEMBERSHIP REPORT

Kent Petty KL5T reported that club membership is now at 271 with 181 Alaska residents and 150 Lifetime members.

EDUCATION COMMITTEE

Kent Petty KL5T reported on upcoming weeklong USAF training beginning October 16th and participation the following week in the Noble Skywave exercise and discussions with the Alaska Native Science and Engineering Program (ANSEP) reps.

EQUIPMENT REPORT

TJ Sheffield KL7TS reported on site visits and checkout, modifications, and programming to both Alaska Regional Hospital and Alaska Native Medical Center TS480 radios. Additional work accomplished at the sites were a firmware update to a Kenwood D710, rooftop antenna repair, antenna tuner confirmed working for 80/60 meters and HF RMS operation. Both sites are now operable for SHARES.

EMCOMM

Kent Petty KL5T noted the previous reported work (from Equipment Report), reported on condition of State EOC Radio Room and non-operable VHF/UHF voice and data equipment, approval of \$10.5k ARDC grant for emergency email server project. A brief discussion was held on possible deployment/use of the recently completed portable SHARES antenna.

VEC PROGRAM

Kent Petty KL5T, AARC VEC Program Chairman, reported the program continues to see a normal seasonal slowdown. The program now has 120+ VE's and continues to train more for the program.

PUBLIC SERVICE EVENTS

Keith Clark KL7MM reported on the seasonal Anchorage Runfest closeout meeting and that meetings for the next year event will happen after January 1st. Discussion noted the need for a

champion for the Gold Nugget Triathlon and the Alaska Run for Women events. Discussion was held on using an output tone on the AARC Daniels portable repeater.

OLD BUSINESS

01. AARC Newsletter – Nothing new to report.
02. Secretary vacancy – Remains vacant.
03. Grubstake/220 repeater status – Waiting for a call from Arcticom re: Grubstake site access. 220 repeater is ready for installation.
04. KL7ION repeater status. Nothing new to report.
05. ARDC/ARRL grant updates –Kent Petty KL5T noted the ARDC grant mentioned in his EMCOMM report.

NEW BUSINESS

01. Election status. There will not be an election held as the slate of candidates nominated by the AARC Board were the only candidates moved and seconded, which negated the need for an election.
02. October Membership meeting. Discussion noted the 2nd introduction of the amended AARC Bylaws and vote by the membership at the October meeting and the need for a quorum to conduct this business.

ADJOURNMENT The meeting adjourned at 7:58pm.

Respectfully submitted as recorded on 09/17/2023 by Richard Tweet KL2AZ, AARC President

Board Meeting October 17, 2023

ANCHORAGE AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

BOARD MEETING

October 17, 2023

Radio Science and Operations Center (RSOC)

6721 Raspberry Road

Anchorage, AK

APPROVED

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM by President Richard Tweet KL2AZ. A quorum was established.

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT IN PERSON:

None

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT VIA VIDEOCONFERENCE (ZOOM) or PHONE:

Richard Tweet KL2AZ, TJ Sheffield KL7TS, Kent Petty KL5T, Riley Petty KL4RP, Keith Clark KL7MM, Matthieu Ostrander KL4QH, Dave Webb N9AIG.

EXCUSED BOARD MEMBERS:

Kevin Opalka KL1V, Wigi Tozzi KL0R, John Lime KL4OF, Dr. Rebecca Weicht, Mathew Notte WL4DX

UNEXCUSED BOARD MEMBERS:

None

REQUEST FOR AGENDA ITEMS

None

VISITORS:

AARC Vision - *An inclusive community of engaged, trained, and prepared emergency communication volunteers*

None

TIME CRITICAL ITEM(S):

None

REPORTS:

SECRETARY REPORT

Richard Tweet KL2AZ provided the September 2023 AARC Board meeting minutes and October 2023 Membership meeting minutes for review. Motion made Keith Clark KL7MM, seconded by Kent Petty KL5T to approve the minutes as presented. With no objections, the motion passed.

TREASURER REPORT

Kent Petty KL5T reported on and referred to the emailed reports to the Board prior to the meeting. There was no discussion.

FINANCE COMMITTEE

Keith Clark KL7MM reported on and referred to the emailed Committee report for review. There was no discussion.

GRANT REQUESTS

There have been no incoming grant requests.

GAMING COMMITTEE

A brief discussion was held on raffles being gaming income and associated reporting requirements.

BYLAWS COMMITTEE

Richard Tweet KL2AZ noted the updated Bylaws have been approved by the membership and now require an official signature.

TRUSTEE REPORT

Keith Clark KL7MM reported updates are needed for LoTW. Dave Webb N9AIG reported no use of the KL7G callsign. Brief discussion noted that Win-Test has been installed on RSOC workstations for logging.

PROJECTS COMMITTEE

TJ Sheffield KL7TS reported on current RSOC projects on the list including Doppler calibration, CCTV camera repairs, Donated Raven Electric batteries and associated testing, USAF training and associated RSOC preparation/use. Discussion noted the USAF training may open communication with a grant writer and also one of the trainees is a Motorola programmer familiar with Quantar repeaters, First Mile Delivery grant process and equipment purchases.

DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

TJ Sheffield KL7TS reported on, and discussion included, RSOC site visit by Alaska Mountain Rescue Group (AMRG) representative (who is also VP of Alaska Search and Rescue Association, ASARA), Upcoming RSOC site visit by the Alaska Native Science and Engineering Program (ANSEP), upcoming W1AW/KL7 VOTA activation, AL1R donations, KL7QZ equipment, KL5T tractor, Providence Hospital Emcomm proposal, 60m band proposal by ARRL, KL7GN and AL1R donations to KL7AA, ARRLF report due, ARDC Grants update, Veterans Affairs site visit, upcoming Homer emergency exercise

MEMBERSHIP REPORT

Kent Petty KL5T reported that club membership is now at 272.

EDUCATION COMMITTEE

Kent Petty KL5T reported possible use of Jeff Wolf N8EX curriculum, certified by the state, for use with Technician training.

EQUIPMENT REPORT

TJ Sheffield KL7TS deferred to Kent Petty KL5T for a report on work to re-stand up the State EOC on JBER. Kent noted 2 Kenwood D710's are in place at the EOC and work continues to make this a fully functional facility.

EMCOMM

Kent Petty KL5T noted the previous reported work (from Equipment Report), on condition of the State EOC Radio Room and also reported that the Hillside South 220 repeater is fully functional again and also that the Alaska Native Medical Center (ANMC) radio are fully functional with Dennis Jones AL5K also having access as an operator.

VEC PROGRAM

Kent Petty KL5T, AARC VEC Program Chairman, noted the program slowdown and suggested a rate change to support the activity. Motion made Mathieu Ostrander KL4QH, seconded by Keith Clark KL7MM to allow the VEC coordinator to implement promotional exam pricing through the end of 2023, subject to a report back to the board by the end of 2023 on the impact (if any) of any changes. The motion carried unanimously.

PUBLIC SERVICE EVENTS

Keith Clark KL7MM reported that meetings for the Anchorage Runfest will start after the new year. Discussion again noted the need for a champion for the Gold Nugget Triathlon and the Alaska Run for Women events and that a Zoom meeting of the race committee would be happening soon.

OLD BUSINESS

01. AARC Newsletter
02. Secretary vacancy – Remains vacant.
03. Grubstake repeater status – Waiting for a call from Arcticom re: Grubstake site access.
04. KL7ION repeater status.
05. ARDC/ARRL grant updates.

NEW BUSINESS

01. November Membership meeting. At this time there is no business to present and RT Systems will be the guest speaker via Zoom,

ADJOURNMENT The meeting adjourned at 8:13pm.

Respectfully submitted as recorded on 10/17/2023 by Richard Tweet KL2AZ, AARC President

Board Meeting November 21, 2023

ANCHORAGE AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

ZOOM BOARD MEETING

November 21, 2023

Radio Science and Operations Center (RSOC)

6721 Raspberry Road

Anchorage, AK

APPROVED

The online meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM by President Richard Tweet KL2AZ. A quorum was established.

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT IN PERSON:

None

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT VIA VIDEOCONFERENCE (ZOOM) or PHONE:

Richard Tweet KL2AZ, TJ Sheffield KL7TS, Kent Petty KL5T, John Lime KL4OF, Keith Clark KL7MM, Matthieu Ostrander KL4QH, Wigi Tozzi KL0R, Dave Webb N9AIG, Dr. Rebecca Weicht

EXCUSED BOARD MEMBERS:

Kevin Opalka KL1V, Mathew Notte WL4DX, Riley Petty KL4RP

UNEXCUSED BOARD MEMBERS:

None

REQUEST FOR AGENDA ITEMS

None

VISITORS:

None

TIME CRITICAL ITEM(S):

None

REPORTS:

SECRETARY REPORT

Richard Tweet KL2AZ provided the October 2023 AARC Board meeting minutes and November 2023 Membership meeting minutes for review. Motion made Keith Clark KL7MM, seconded by John Lime KL4OF to approve the minutes as presented. With no objections, the motion passed.

TREASURER REPORT

Kent Petty KL5T reported on AARC assets and account balances and reported all bills are paid and accounts current.

FINANCE COMMITTEE

There was not a report to be given for the last scheduled Finance Committee meeting as the Chair was excused.

GRANT REQUESTS

There have been no incoming grant requests.

GAMING COMMITTEE

Silent Key Lara Baker AL2R has been removed from the Gaming Committee. A brief discussion was held on the process for becoming a Gaming member and also state tax reporting requirements.

RULES OF PROCEDURE COMMITTEE

The AARC Rules of procedure review and updates will begin shortly and reported on under this heading.

TRUSTEE REPORT

Keith Clark KL7MM reported that the AARC Club Station was used for the W1AW/KL7 VOTA activation and also for Sweepstakes. Dave Webb N9AIG reported no use of the KL7G callsign.

PROJECTS COMMITTEE

TJ Sheffield KL7TS reported on current RSOC projects/maintenance on the list including East mast repair, RSOC computer upgrades, Bays 1 & 2 cleanup, 12v battery bus, CCTV camera repair, Large monitor screen install, Point One Navigation proposal, and MESH super node. A brief discussion was held on the AARC Weatherport future.

DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

TJ Sheffield KL7TS reported on, and discussion included, Point One Navigation, RAVN Air hanger antenna project, ANMC SHARES modem upgrade proposal, Traffic structure between hospitals and State E.O.C., Gold Nugget Triathlon and Alaska Run for Women public service events in need of an amateur radio leader, Dennis Jones AL5K progress with LORA and Meshtastic development.

MEMBERSHIP REPORT

Kent Petty KL5T reported that club membership is now at 280 and renewal notices have been sent out. Kent noted the need for an end of year newsletter.

EDUCATION COMMITTEE

Kent Petty KL5T reported on upcoming N7JI online Technician training possible upcoming 3D printer training by a USAF programmer who attended the 673rd USAF training at the RSOC recently.

EQUIPMENT REPORT

TJ Sheffield KL7TS reported on Clean Seas donated Quantar repeaters, donated batteries from Don Lederhos KL1OZ and their condition, battery bank maintenance. A brief discussion was held on looking into a grant for snow management at the RSOC and also that the Hillside MESH nodes had dropped due to a power outage and the need for UPS's to be installed at their location. Kent Petty KL5t thanked TJ Sheffield KL7TS for covering the cost of repairs to the plow truck used for RSOC grounds.

EMCOMM

Kent Petty KL5T reported on MESH 5.8 GHz gear ready to install and put into service and also the First Mile Email Server project. TJ Sheffield KL7TS noted the upcoming Alaska Emergency Frequency test.

VEC PROGRAM

Kent Petty KL5T, AARC VEC Program Chairman, noted the program has been 30% busier since the price restructuring and that a Tennessee group wants to form an in person testing team which would include two of the AARC VE's.

PUBLIC SERVICE EVENTS

Keith Clark KL7MM reported that meetings for the Anchorage Runfest will start after the new year. Discussions noted installing an output tone on the AARC portable Daniels repeater, looking into obtaining a grant to acquire e-bikes for public service events.

OLD BUSINESS

01. AARC Newsletter. End of year newsletter to be done
02. Secretary vacancy – Remains vacant.
03. Grubstake repeater status – Waiting for a call from Arcticom re: Grubstake site access. Nothing new
04. KL7ION repeater status. Nothing new
05. ARDC/ARRL grant updates.

NEW BUSINESS

01. Alaska ARRL Section Manager election results. David Stevens KL7EB was reelected to the position.
02. December Membership meeting. At this time there is no business to present so an open house type of event with snacks for Christmas is suggested.

ADJOURNMENT The meeting adjourned at 8:03pm.

Respectfully submitted as recorded on 11/21/2023 by Richard Tweet KL2AZ, AARC President

General Membership Meeting Minutes

General Membership Meeting May 4, 2023

ANCHORAGE AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

MEMBERSHIP VIDEOCONFERENCE

May 4, 2023

Radio Science and Operations Center (RSOC)

6721 Raspberry Road

Anchorage, AK

APPROVED

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 7:03 PM by President Richard Tweet KL2AZ. A quorum was established. Those in attendance were reminded of the opportunity to donate to the AARC via Pick/Click/Give through August of 2023 and the AARC Public Service Event coordinators were introduced and reported on the upcoming 2023 events and the need for volunteers.

May 6th – Walk and Roll for Hope and MS Walk: Anchorage (Keith Clark KL7MM)

May 21st – Gold Nugget Triathlon (Walter Yankauskas KL7WY)

June 10th – Alaska Run for Women (Walter Yankauskas KL7WY)

July 22nd – Dog Jog (TJ Sheffield KL7TS)

August 20th – Runfest (Keith Clark KL7MM)

Presentation

Richard Tweet KL2AZ presented 3 videos for the presentation:

INDIE ALASKA - I am a Ham Radio Hobbyist
(<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hGgofRfWyNw&t=2s>)

How to be a ham radio operator during public service events and nets

(<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HHxNOMGSwAI>)

Fldigi/Flrig Software Setup from A-Z – For Ham Radio Digital Modes

(<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=aBzqACjQJDU>)

Business

None conducted.

The meeting adjourned at 8:00 PM. Respectfully submitted as recorded by Richard Tweet KL2AZ (AARC President) on May 4, 2023.

General Membership Meeting June 2, 2023

ANCHORAGE AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

MEMBERSHIP VIDEOCONFERENCE

June 1, 2023

Radio Science and Operations Center (RSOC)

6721 Raspberry Road

Anchorage, AK

APPROVED

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 7:02 PM by President Richard Tweet KL2AZ. A quorum was not established, and no business was conducted. It was announced that there would not be a Membership meeting in July and that in-person Membership meetings at the RSOC would resume with the August 3rd Membership meeting.

Upcoming Public Service Events were noted:

June 10th – Alaska Run for Women (Walter Yankauskas KL7WY)

July 22nd – Dog Jog (TJ Sheffield KL7TS)

August 20th – Runfest (Keith Clark KL7MM)

Presentation

Richard Tweet KL2AZ presented a YouTube video on FCC required RF exposure calculations:

New FCC RF safety rule for ham radio #hamadio

<https://youtu.be/kyLDC-H8kb0>

Business

None conducted.

The meeting adjourned at 7:43 PM. Respectfully submitted as recorded by Richard Tweet KL2AZ (AARC President) on June 1, 2023.

General Membership Meeting August 3, 2023

ANCHORAGE AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

MEMBERSHIP MEETING

August 3, 2023

Radio Science and Operations Center (RSOC)

6721 Raspberry Road

Anchorage, AK

APPROVED

Call to Order

The meeting (in-person and videoconference) was called to order at 7:00 PM by President Richard Tweet KL2AZ. With both Zoom and in-person attendees, a quorum was established.

Business

AARC Board approved Associate member candidate for the open Director position Dr. Rebecca Weicht's bio was read to the membership and a motion to approve was requested. Motion made Keith Clark KL7MM, seconded by Dave Filley WL7CDJ to approve Dr. Weicht to the open Director position. The motion passed unanimously.

The membership was briefed on the AARC Development Committee update of the AARC Bylaws which is complete and will be presented to the Board on August 15th for approval followed by presentation to the membership for review at the September meeting and for approval at the October meeting. Discussion noted changes recommended by the Foraker Group, including a smaller Board of Directors, were incorporated into the Bylaws update as well as simplification and

standardization of language. It was noted that the AARC Rules of Procedure will begin the update process upon approval of the update Bylaws.

As per the AARC Rules of Procedure, the AARC Election Committee was introduced, and the election procedure/timeline was presented. In conjunction with the proposed AARC Bylaw update it was noted that only the Treasurer and Vice President Officer positions will be up for election this year in order to accomplish the reduced Director positions number of 6.

Additional items of interest presented to the membership included the ARRLF Grant and its operational use, Grant application timelines and potential applications, CAP Lake Hood Squadron use of the RSOC for training and classes and their monthly donation to the AARC, ANC Airport contractor use of the RSOC West parking area for project staging, previous and possible upcoming training for the USAF Communications Squadron and participation in Noble Skywave in October, and AARC net control training opportunities.

Keith Clark KL7MM noted that he is still needing volunteers for the Runfest event on August 20th. Information is on the KL7AA.org homepage.

Presentation

Richard Tweet KL2AZ presented a Rhode and Schwarz video on Near Vertical Incidence Skywave (NVIS). This video was presented at a previous membership meeting and was requested to be presented again. The video is available at:

https://www.rohde-schwarz.com/us/knowledge-center/videos/understanding-near-vertical-incidence-skywave-nvis-video-detailpage_251220-908736.html

The meeting adjourned at 7:48 PM. Respectfully submitted as recorded by Richard Tweet KL2AZ (AARC President) on August 3, 2023.

General Membership Meeting September 7, 2023

ANCHORAGE AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

AARC Vision - *An inclusive community of engaged, trained, and prepared emergency communication volunteers*

MEMBERSHIP MEETING

September 7, 2023

Radio Science and Operations Center (RSOC)

6721 Raspberry Road

Anchorage, AK

APPROVED

Call to Order

The meeting (in-person and videoconference) was called to order at 7:02 PM by President Richard Tweet KL2AZ. With both Zoom and in-person attendees, a quorum was established.

Business

01. Introduction of Election Slate by AARC Board

Vice President – TJ Sheffield KL7TS

Treasurer – Kent Petty KL5T

Director – Dave Webb N9AIG

Director – Wigi Tozzi KL0R

Nominations have been accepted by the candidates. Two seconds of the nomination were Dave Filley WL7CDJ and Eric Cannon KL4VA.

Additional Nominations were opened with 3 requests for nominations for each position. There were no additional nominations for the positions of Vice President, Treasurer and 2 Directors and nominations were closed.

02. Presentation of proposed updated AARC Bylaws. The current and proposed bylaws along with a summary of changes were made available to those present and via email request to President@kl7aa.org. These will be up for adoption at the October Membership meeting.

Presentation

Richard Tweet KL2AZ noted the recent ARES Net theme of message traffic. Briefly discussed were the ARRL Radiogram and the ICS-213 form. The recent ARRL "On the Air" article was used for discussing completion of the fields in the message.

Kent Petty KL5T gave a brief demonstration of the 1st mile delivery in an emergency situation using PiGate. Several in attendance accessed the mail server and were able to send a test message. This concept is being developed with the goal of multiple deployments in an emergency.

The meeting adjourned at 7:49 PM. Respectfully submitted as recorded by Richard Tweet KL2AZ (AARC President) on September 7, 2023.

General Membership Meeting October 5, 2023

ANCHORAGE AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

MEMBERSHIP MEETING

October 5, 2023

Radio Science and Operations Center (RSOC)

6721 Raspberry Road

Anchorage, AK

APPROVED

Call to Order

The meeting (in-person and videoconference) was called to order at 7:02 PM by President Richard Tweet KL2AZ. With both Zoom and in-person attendees, a quorum was established.

Business

01. Second presentation of proposed updated AARC Bylaws. Motion made Kent Petty KL5T, seconded by Keith Clark KL7MM to accept the Bylaws as presented. There was no discussion on the motion, and it passed unanimously.
02. Introduction of ARRL Section Manager candidates David Stevens KL7EB and Jeff Wolf N8EX to the members. Both candidates introduced themselves and spoke briefly about the position.
03. AARC operating ARRL W1AW/KL7 Volunteers on the Air (VOTA) November 15-22. Watch for upcoming requests for volunteers and scheduling.
04. Gold Nugget Triathlon – Need a volunteer to attend event planning meetings and champion this event for the AARC.
05. Alaska Run for Women – Need a volunteer to attend event planning meetings and champion this event for the AARC.

Presentation

Kent Petty KL5T gave a detailed demonstration of the 1st mile delivery in an emergency situation using PiGate and discussed the ARDC grant obtained to develop/provide this service.

The meeting adjourned at 7:56 PM. Respectfully submitted as recorded by Richard Tweet KL2AZ (AARC President) on October 5, 2023.

General Membership Meeting November 2, 2023

ANCHORAGE AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

MEMBERSHIP MEETING

November 2, 2023

Radio Science and Operations Center (RSOC)

6721 Raspberry Road

Anchorage, AK

APPROVED

Call to Order

The meeting (in-person and videoconference) was called to order at 7:00 PM by President Richard Tweet KL2AZ. With both Zoom and in-person attendees, a quorum was established.

Business

There was no business to be discussed at this meeting.

Presentation

Karin Thompson KD4DXX gave a presentation introducing RT Systems and gave it's history, detailed how a programmer is developed, differences between programmers and the limitation of each radio manufacturer, and gave live demonstrations of the programmers in operation. Karin also explained the RT Systems cables for programming and their chipset used.

Karin also allowed time for Q & A from the group and although midnight at her location, stayed online until all questions were answered.

KL7AA activation of W1AW/KL7 was introduced and noted that information and signup information would be on the KL7AA website.

KL7AA's ongoing activities and station maintenance were noted.

The meeting adjourned at 7:58 PM. Respectfully submitted as recorded by Richard Tweet KL2AZ (AARC President) on November 2, 2023.

General Membership Meeting December 7, 2023

ANCHORAGE AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

MEMBERSHIP MEETING

AARC Vision - *An inclusive community of engaged, trained, and prepared emergency communication volunteers*

December 7, 2023

Radio Science and Operations Center (RSOC)

6721 Raspberry Road

Anchorage, AK

APPROVED

Call to Order

The meeting (in-person and videoconference) was called to order at 7:00 PM by President Richard Tweet KL2AZ. With both Zoom and in-person attendees, a quorum was established. All attendees introduced themselves.

Business

There was no AARC business conducted at this meeting.

General Discussion

Richard Tweet KL2AZ reported on the KL7AA activation of W1AW/KL7 and noted the activation was responsible for 3225 contacts, the East mast failure and temporary repairs, the First Mile Email Server project, 673rd Comm squad training and possible upcoming 3D printer training by one of the attendees.

Richard announced that Jim Macdonald KL4XQ has volunteered to be the lead for the Alaska Run for Women event and Riley Petty KL4RP has volunteered to be the lead for the Gold Nugget Triathlon event. Watch for updates on these (and other) public service events.

KL7AA's ongoing activities and station maintenance were noted.

Door Prizes

Donated door prizes were drawn for those in attendance which included hot/cold mugs, soldering iron kits, and a handheld dual band radio.

The meeting adjourned at 7:35PM and was followed by donated snacks, tours, and conversation.

Respectfully submitted as recorded by Richard Tweet KL2AZ (AARC President) on November 2, 2023.